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AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1978

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In the course of time and by the grace of God, a new year has been given the people of earth . . . .



Tommy Manning
Editor

Editorial . . .

Cover Photo by Camerique

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REFLECTIONS AND DEFLECTIONS OF THE NEW YEAR

by Loy Everette Ballard

In the course of time and by the grace of God, a new year has been given the people of earth. During the first few days of the new year many people will be making resolutions of some sort. For most people, the first months of the new year will be a time of reflections and deflections.

For this article, our design is to take a look at the attitude Christians—and especially Free Will Baptists—will most likely take as they contemplate the new year. If in any manner we appear to be prophesying, the prophesies grow out of our observations of the attitudes of our friends and acquaintances of a period of a good many years.

For most all Christians, it will be a time of reflections, accompanied by the making of resolutions. Most of these resolutions will be of a positive nature. ''I will go to church regularly during this year''; ''I will make regular offerings''; ''I will be more faithful to all my obligations than I have been being''; ''I will, I will, I will!''—and they mean it in this time of solemn reflection. Let us agree that some, hopefully a majority, will be faithful to these resolutions.

But as time goes on, some will begin to modify their resolutions. Instead of ''I will,'' it will become, ''I will try.'' Instead of ''I will go to church regularly,'' it will be ''I'll try to go more often.'' With respect to obligations in general, it will be ''I'll do something when and if I can.''

The time of reflections now gives place to the time of deflections. For many, this transition takes place within a month or six weeks. Some others held out for three or four months. And some—may God grant that they will be a majority—will keep their good resolutions throughout the year.

It is our sincere hope that those who read this, will go through the reflection period with sober honesty, and then bypass the deflection period, coming to the end of the year with the joy that comes from faithfulness. For us Free Will Baptists, the need for our devotion to service and loyalty to our faith is too badly needed for us to be careless in our living and actions during this year. It is up to the living Free Will Baptists of today, to set examples of loyalty and devotion for those who follow us. Let there be no deflection from the course of God's will for Original Free Will Baptists during this year of 1978!

JANUARY 4, 1978
Volume 93 Number 1

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ETHIOPIANS CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN JERUSALEM ON JANUARY 6

by Sybil Zimmerman

WHILE the rest of the world is dismantling their Christmas trees and considering New Year's resolutions, an ancient community of black-skinned Ethiopian Christians in Jerusalem start their colorful Christmas ceremonies in an ornately decorated chapel on the roof of the Holy Sepulchre Church.

Deep within the winding paths of the walled Old City of Jerusalem, 50 black monks and 10 nuns conduct all night Christmas services on January 6 and 7, according to their special Ethiopian calendar. There are perhaps another 100 Christian people from Ethiopia who also live in Israel and a constant coming and going of pilgrims, who attend these unusual services. Many of them have sought refuge here in recent years and they have been warmly received by the Israelis.

"I hope His birth has come to you in light," is the phrase uttered on Christmas by the Ethiopians in their language of Amharic. It is comparable to "Merry Christmas". This greeting, repeated over and over, is just a part of the Christmas service so colorful in vestments, drums and music.

The participants in the ceremonies dress in dramatic velvet robes. The capes, which reach to the floor, are heavily embroidered in gold and silver threads outlining such symbols as the lion of Judea and the star of David, which is also the insignia of the state of Israel. The star of David is particulary significant to the Ethiopians because they believe that he was the grand-father of their church, founded by King Menelik, the son of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.

The 40 days before the Ethiopian Christmas, members of the community prepare for the celebration with a special fast. During the entire 40 days period the Ethiopians eat only vegetables in the afternoon; they do not even allow themselves eggs or milk. On the day before Christmas, there is a strict fasting, with the eating of only a little food at noon. Then nothing is eaten until the morning of Christmas day, January 6.

The official Christmas prayers begin Christmas eve at about 8 p. m. in the chapel on the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in the Old City of Jerusalem. (The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is revered by Christians as the site of the crucifixion and believed by many to contain the tomb of Jesus from which he rose.) The church is especially holy to the Ethiopians because they say it is adjacent to the site which was given to them in the days of King Solomon.

Services in the chapel on the roof continue until two in the morning and include the use of traditional instruments—the drum and another metal instrument resembling cymbals, used in the temples of ancient Egypt and said to have come from the temple of Jerusalem.

The Ethiopians stand praying for many hours. They also carry with them a special wooden stick about four-and-a-half feet tall with a carved silver top. In Ethiopia the lifting of the stick up and down is used for indicating rhythm in liturgical-type dances. The church people in Israel also use the stick for support while praying since they have been fasting and might be weakened.

After the services, about three in the morning, the worshipers enjoy a meal. At five in the morning they all go to Bethlehem to pray in the Grotto of the Nativity, the traditional birth place of Jesus.

These unique ceremonies are repeated year after year in Jerusalem by these dignified Christians from Africa. The Ethiopians are known in Israel for their quiet-spoken politeness and their sense of charity and concern for other people.

Ethiopian Christians can be found in several locations in Israel. In addition to the Archbishop's residence and Deir es-Sultan (the two chapels atop the roof of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre,) the Ethiopian church has six monasteries in Israel—three in Jerusalem and others in Bethany, Jerico and near the Jordan River—the place believed to be the site of Jesus' baptism. These Ethiopian holy places, as all Christian sites in Israel, enjoy the help and protection of the Israeli government.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 8
Scripture Reading—John 4:24

IN SILENCE

An African native, away from his village, met some missionaries and learned for the first time of the God who loves men. He went back to his tribe carrying the Book which tells of God, but he was unable to read it. When he told the tribe of God, they wanted to do God honor. But how should they worship Him?

They laid the Book on a stump and sat around it in silence in a meeting that might have reminded us of the old-fashioned silent Quaker meetings. Did such worship touch the heart of God? I am sure it did, far more than much of the cold ritual that many of us are accustomed to go through.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of you have prayed a silent prayer for Jesus? He will hear that too, as well as, a prayer that you pray out loud. Why not pray a silent prayer today!

MONDAY, JANUARY 9
Scripture Reading—John 14:1

THE UNWORRIED CHRISTIAN

Only the life that is truly at leisure from itself can fulfill its ministries rightly. The perfect Christian worker is the unworried Christian, untroubled even about the service he seeks to render. He knows his own inability to change a heart or to convict a sinner. He is sure of his own commission to witness for his Master. As he is so confident in the co-working of that Master that he does his part faithfully, and leaves the rest to the Worker that cannot err and does not fail.

How great the glory of an unworried life! It is feeding from the table of the King, and being clothed out of His wardrobe (Matthew 6:25-34). It is genuine, it is reliable, it is practical, it is delightful. There are many thus walking by faith, with upward look and rejoicing hearts.

PRAYER THOUGHT

If you will turn your heart to God, then you do not have to worry because He will take care of you and guide you along.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
Scripture Reading—Matthew 16:26

NO PLACE FOR A CHRISTIAN

A certain titled British gentleman was converted. He loved the Lord a great deal, but he was not well taught in the Scriptures. He thought that he could continue in some of his worldly engagements and still bear a good testimony. On an occasion some weeks after he gave his heart to the Lord, this man accepted an invitation to a very worldly party. Upon his arrival, one of the guests greeted him with these words: "I'm so glad to see you and to know that it isn't true." "I beg your pardon," he replied, "but I think I don't quite understand you." "Why," said the other guest, "rumors were around that you had been converted a few weeks ago; I'm so glad you're here and to know, therefore, that the rumor was unfounded." "But it is true!" the dumbfounded man ejaculated. Hesitating a moment, he added, "I see that you think this party is no place for a Christian to be. And you are right. You will never again see me at such an affair, nor will anyone else." And, bidding his host and hostess adieu, he departed from his last world's engagement.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should never go to places that we would not want God to be there with us, because He is always near us especially if we are Christians.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11
Scripture Reading—Job 10:3

"JUST PLAIN LAZY!"

"Give it to me straight, doc. I can take it! Tell me in plain English what's the matter with me." "Okay, I'll be frank with you. My diagnosis is that you're just plain lazy!" "All right, doc. Now please give me a SCIENTIFIC NAME for it so I can go home and tell my wife!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Does Jesus consider us to be "just plain lazy"? Are we unwilling to work for Him as we should? We should do everything we can for Him, because He loves us so much.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12
Scripture Reading—John 3:16

EIGHT OTHERS GOT OUT THEIR BIBLES

A fine lad entered the Army. He faced a real test the first night he went to bed in the barracks. He had formed the commendable habit of placing his Bible on his bed at home, and kneeling down to read a chapter while having his daily prayer time before retiring. Surrounded by scores of rough men in the one great company room, many of them cursing and jesting loudly, he thought it might be wiser to go to bed and then read his Bible where nobody would notice it. But he told himself, "I am a Christian, and I ought to give these fellows a testimony. I won't strike my colors; I'll do just as I did at home!" So the courageous youngster undressed, got into his sleeping garments, then spread his Bible on his cot. He kneeled down and started to read, and in two minutes the barracks got as quiet as a church. He felt like a goldfish in a glass bowl. . . . After a while the talk began again, and nothing was said about his odd behavior. But the next night when he again opened his Bible and knelt to read, eight other boys dug out their Bibles and did the same. Within a month every man in that outfit would have fought for that boy. They brought their troubles and their questions to him to be settled, and he influenced more men for Christ in that one barracks than half a dozen chaplains could have moved in a year of Sundays.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus is pleased to see us stand for our rights as a Christian. We should always show others that we love God no matter where we are.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13
Scripture Reading—Revelation 1:5

A CARTOONIST SPEAKS FOR JESUS

Cartoonist Vaughan R. Shoemaker, cartoonist for the Chicago Daily News, creator of "John. Q. Public," Pulitzer Prize Winner spoke thus for His Saviour:

"What shall it profit a man if he

gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Any one of us is fortunate if we gain so much as a very small piece of this whole world, much less the whole of it. What if we did? What would it profit us?

I was honest enough with myself back in 1926 to admit I was concerned about my soul. I was simple enough to accept the simple gospel and accept Jesus Christ as my Saviour.

To this day I have never been sorry. Having had little education or natural ability, for any success I have gained as a cartoonist I must give credit to God. I wouldn't dare start a day without first starting it on my knees, with God, beside my drawing-board. I gain wisdom from Him.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What a great way to start the day by praying and thanking God for all the good that He has given to us? Do you say a prayer each morning? Why not start this morning!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
Scripture Reading—Ephesians 1:5

"BEHIND A FROWNING PROVIDENCE"

A story is told of a Christian girl in India, who was about to be married. She was attractive, and one of the most capable girls in the institution. Sores appeared on her hands, and it was discovered that she had leprosy. She was removed from the orphanage and sent to the leper asylum. She was dressed in her beautiful white flowing garments, as she walked with her brother into that awful place. The women who were there were dirty and filthy, and their faces looked sad and hopeless. When she saw them, she threw her head on her brother's shoulder, and wept and sobbed, "My God," she said, "am I going to become as they are?" She was so distressed, that those about her were afraid she might jump into the well. The missionaries sympathized with her, and asked her if she wouldn't like to be a help to those poor women. A ray of hope came to her and she caught the vision. She started a school, and taught the women to sing, read and write. She could play, so the missionaries bought her a folding organ. Gradually a transformation took place. The houses were made clean, neat and tidy; the women washed their clothes and combed their hair; and that horrible place became a place of blessing.

After being there for some time, she said, "When I first came to the asylum I doubted that there was a God." "Now," she said, "I know that God had a work for me to do, and if I had not become a leper, I never would have discovered my work. Every day I live, I thank Him for having sent me here, and that He has given me this work to do."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Doesn't God cause things to happen to us to make us appreciate His love for us? He works in mysterious ways.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

THE GREATEST GIFT

by the Rev. Ray Williamson
Grantsboro, N.C.

Many of our gifts are not wrapped in colorful paper with a bow on top. In fact, most people would agree that their best gifts are such intangible things as health, love, and happiness. We could name things that have been given to us all day long, but until we have included Jesus Christ, Immanuel, we have left out the greatest gift!

When Queen Elizabeth's third child was born, 128 telegrams were sent to foreign heads of state announcing the birth. The lights in Buckingham Palace, the House of Commons, and all the other regal buildings remained on all night. The switchboards were bombarded with congratulatory calls. . .all the world seemed to know about the birth of that child.

In stark contrast, when God's **only** child was born into this world the night was silent. The greatest event in all of history was taking place and most people were not even aware of it. Perhaps even Mary and Joseph did not realize the magnitude of that holy night. . .the night "heaven came down and glory filled our souls."

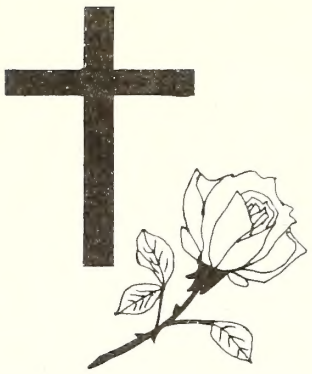
You would think that the birth of the "King of Kings" and "Lord of Lords," someone whom Isaiah said would be called "wonderful, counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of peace," would cause all of heaven and nature to sing of the glorious news. Instead, Christ's birth was so unheralded that Isaiah, in prophesying, had to ask, "Who hath believed our report." Of course, we know that the Saviour's birth was not without proclamation, but even in the way it was proclaimed we catch a glimpse of the kind of life, and death, that would be His. For, you see, the word was not given to the great rulers and mighty potentates, but to the lowly shepherds on the Judean hillside.

I believe there was a purposeful significance to the humility of Christ's birth. It was God's choice that Jesus would be born to ordinary, God-fearing parents in a manger surrounded by the beasts of burden of that day because these things are so typical of life and earth. Is it not a relief to know that we do not have to search among the ivory palaces for the things of Heaven; rather, Psalm 113:6 says that one must "humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven." I am thankful Christ was incarnated into this world without fanfare, trumpet blast, and unseen by the world. (He is saving that for His second coming!)

God has placed His gift under the tree for you and me. Who among us would leave a present with our name on it unwrapped under the tree this Christmas? Let us unwrap God's gift and receive our "portion among the great" and our "spoil among the strong," which will go to those who have been justified, and Isaiah has said that God's servant "justified many for he bore our iniquities."

You may ask, "How can a gift under a tree justify us?" The reason is that that tree is no ordinary tree for it is the tree of life; it is the tree upon which Jesus died; it is the Cross of Calvary. Found beneath that cross is nothing but the blood of Jesus, and that is no ordinary gift. His blood is the only thing that can wash away our iniquities.

Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would be "wounded for our transgressions, be numbered among the transgressors, and bare the sin of many." In order to do that, Jesus first had to be born into this sinful world. He was born among the animals and died among the thieves, and in so doing, gave to us THE GREATEST GIFT. . .HIMSELF. "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name immanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us" (Matthew 1:23).



Special Moments

Dear Readers,

The column is two years old this month. During this time, the Lord has blessed it, and the weekly letters have touched the lives of many people.

I have personally always believed that our Lord had a plan for the contents of the column beyond the readers of the "Baptist." So I have directed my efforts and my faith toward the goal of having SPECIAL MOMENTS become an inspiration hardback book dedicated to our Lord. A manuscript based on the compilation of these weekly letters, along with other inspirational messages and my personal testimony, has been prepared and properly endorsed by the Press. It is now in the hands of a publisher who thinks highly of its contents. I believe those who have contributed to the column will be pleased with the manner in which their testimonies have been prepared to reach others. However, since I do not desire personal recognition for this work and have designated the royalties to two FWB programs, the book cannot be promoted in the traditional ways which require an author's acknowledgment.

NOW the future of the manuscript SPECIAL MOMENTS rests in the hands of the Free Will Baptist people who read this column. The publisher will begin the book WHEN he has received AN IMMEDIATE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST from the readers of the "Baptist" and an indication of their support of this book. **You** know the contents of the letters; **you** recognize their value. I believe our Lord wishes this book to be published as a book of faith and testimonies. It can be done by Easter IF YOU will respond immediately.

How can you help? Simply cut out the bottom of this column, fill it in and mail it to my attention at the FWB Press. Or, you can simply call the Editorial Department at the Press (746-6128 in Ayden) and give them your name and address and state your interest in having a copy. Your support in this manner will help make **SPECIAL MOMENTS, the book**, become a reality.

The publication of a manuscript is a serious, expensive, and complicated business venture. In this case a prepublication market must be established immediately. The book must be accepted by the readers as well as those who contributed to the weekly column. I had hoped to be able to make a positive announcement that the book would be available by Easter. Now it needs your help. Will you stand up and be counted? Will you accept the challenge to support its publication and promotion? Its message can reach many more. I am confident you will not allow this worthwhile project to be terminated at the final stage. But you must reply **no later than January 15**. It is proper that the readers of the "Baptist" decide on whether or not they want this book of faith.

It will be easy to put aside this column and say, "Let someone else reply." Think before you do that. It requires your support.

Dear Maggie,

I desire to see SPECIAL MOMENTS become a hardback book which will be a living testimony to our Lord, and I would like to have a copy when available.

Name _____

Address _____

Or, call the Editorial Department of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS FOUNDATION, INC. (919-746-6128) and give them your order.

Thank you,
Maggie

Churches and Ministers Available

(Note: This column is provided, when needed, for any church that is seeking a pastor and for any minister who is seeking a church to serve and would like to give such notice. Please send the necessary information to the editor of "The Free Will Baptist." Each notice will run for two issues only.)

The Rev. Jesse Benoist announces that he is available for pastoral or supply work. He may be contacted by writing the Rev. Jesse Benoist, Flowers Street, Rockingham, N.C. 28379; or phone, 919-582-2653.

The Otway Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Beaufort, is seeking a new pastor for full-time services. Anyone who is interested and qualified, please contact Mrs. Luella Taylor, Route 2, Box 677, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516; or call Mrs. Taylor after 4:30 p. m. at 728-3935.

IN MEMORIAM

At sunset on October 10, 1977, God in His infinite wisdom and tender mercy called Benjamin Alfred Avery to be in His blessed presence.

He was born June 2, 1891, in Craven County to Alonza Washington and Emily Thomason Avery.

Leaving behind to mourn his departure are his widow, Annie Aman Avery; three daughters, Ann Hardin of Denver, Colorado; Ann Elizabeth Hall of Kinston; and Barbara Ann Hansen of New Bern; a foster son, William Earl Vinson of Maury; a brother, T. W. Avery of Route 6, New Bern; a sister, Mrs. Mary Jones of Beaufort; nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

He was a member of Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church of R. F. D. New Bern, and a staunch supporter of Original Free Will Baptists of the Eastern Conference.

Thanking you very kindly.

Sincerely,
Annie Avery

CHURCH PEWS NEEDED

Anyone having any church pews for sell or know of any church that has some, please call Kinston, 523-2354 or 523-3505, or write Marlene J. Everett, 2813 Murray Hill Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: How may a Christian pray so as to please God?

Answer: Jesus told His disciples: "And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Matthew 6:5-15).

Notice that our Lord did not tell His followers to memorize or repeat the words He gave them which might be a worthy gesture, but He said "after this manner therefore pray ye." To pray "after this manner" one would begin with a proper form of address. If the one praying were a Christian it would be "our Father." If he were not a Christian He might address the Father as "Almighty God, Creator of all things" or in some such manner as that and he need not call on God for anything else than that God forgive his sins and save his soul, but then he is obligated to pray for all men.

This takes mercy on the part of God and no less grace than that He manifested in Himself when He gave His only begotten Son to suffer and die on the Cross for all sinners. "Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth" (John 9:31). The Philippian jailer asked what to do that he might be saved. God's servants, the apostles, controlled by the Holy Spirit replied, ". . . Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31).

Sinners, then it appears, may not be heard when saying any kind of prayer. God does hear them, however, when with a broken and a contrite heart they petition Him for their own personal salvation. "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21); "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). One must act in faith when he prays. "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord" (James 1:6, 7).

Jesus said to His disciples "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples" (John 15:7, 8); "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust . . . . He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation" (Psalm 91:1, 2, 15, 16); "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

E. M. Bounds in his little book, **Power through Prayer** has the following to say on Pages 93-95 which makes sense to me. I would advise that Christians secure and read the whole of this little book. It is a helpful aid to one who has dilligently studied his Bible and is desirous of improving his prayer life: "Only glimpses of the great importance of prayer could the apostles get before Pentecost. But the Spirit coming and filling at Pentecost elevated prayer to its vital and all commanding position in the Gospel of Christ. The call now of prayer to every saint is the Spirit's loudest and most exigent call. Sainthood's piety is made, refined, perfected, by prayer. The Gospel moves with slow and timid pace when the saints are not at their prayers early and late and long.

"Where are the Christly leaders who can teach the modern saints how to pray and put them at it? Do we know we are raising up a prayerless set of saints? Where are the apostolic leaders who can put God's people to praying? Let them come to the front and do the work, and it will be the greatest work which can be done. An increase of educational facilities and a great increase of money force will be the direst curse to religion if they are not sanctified by more and better praying than we are doing. More praying will not come as a matter of course. The campaign for the twentieth or thirtieth century fund will not help our praying but hinder if we are not careful. Nothing but a specific effort from a praying leadership will avail. The chief ones must lead in the apostolic effort to radicate the vital importance and **fact** of prayer in the heart and life of the Church. None but praying leaders can have praying followers. Praying apostles will beget praying saints. A praying pulpit will beget praying pews. We do greatly need somebody who can set the saints to this business of praying. We are not a generation of praying saints. Non-praying saints are a beggarly gang of saints who have neither the ardour nor the beauty nor the power of saints. Who will restore this breach? The greatest will he be of reformers and apostles, who can set the Church to praying.

"We put it as our most sober judgment that the great need of the Church in this and all ages is men of such commanding faith, of such unsullied holiness, of such marked spiritual vigor and consuming zeal, that their prayers, faith, lives, and ministry will be of such a radical and aggressive form as

(Continued on Page 11)

Mount Olive College

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE A DOOR OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

by W. Burkette Raper, President

We invite students to attend Mount Olive College for two reasons: One is the educational quality of the College and the other is that we have a financial aid program that is designed to meet the need of every worthy and qualified student regardless of his or her financial circumstances.

Need and Merit

Our program of aid is based upon two deeply felt convictions:

First, the College believes that every person who truly wants to prepare for a life of meaning and service should have that opportunity. For this reason the College provides financial assistance based on demonstrable need. If the student is academically and personally qualified for admission, he will not be denied acceptance for financial reasons.

Second, Mount Olive College believes in the principles of the American system of free enterprise. Based on this conviction, the College provides **merit scholarships** and **incentive grants** to students who have worked hard to prepare themselves for college. These awards are given in recognition of years of successful academic work and the diligent development of good character and citizenship. Mount Olive College believes that a person need not be classified at ''poverty level'' to be awarded for scholastic and personal achievements.

These are, therefore, the criteria for receiving financial assistance to attend Mount Olive College: **need** and **merit**. Some students will qualify on only one criterion—**need** or **merit**; others will qualify on both **need** and **merit.**

Kinds of Aid

Aid to students fall into three categories:

1. Scholarships and grants: These are awards that do not have to be repaid.
2. Education Loans: Generally speaking, these loans are without interest during the time the student is enrolled in College or in military service.
3. Part-time Employment: Payment for services performed which may be on or off campus.

Limitations on Aid

There are three limitations on financial aid awards:

Because of the comprehensive and generous provisions for financial assistance at Mount Olive College, some students will qualify for multi-awards. In such instances the following policies will be observed:

1. The College reserves the right to withdraw the duplicate award (s) or to make appropriate adjustments in the amount of the award (s).
2. Under no circumstances may the total amount of awards (scholarships, grants, loans ond other financial assistance) exceed the cost of attending Mount Olive College.
3. The policy on ''Limitation on Awards'' shall apply to all financial assistance granted by or through Mount Olive College and **from** sources outside the College.

The student Aid program at Mount Olive College for 1977-78 is approximately $500,000, and an equal amount or more is anticipated for 1978-79. We will welcome an opportunity to help anyone who wants an education.

For More Information

For information regarding **admission** to the College, we invite you to write, visit or call: Admissions Office, Henderson Building, New Campus, or phone (919) 658-2502.

For information regarding **financial aid**, we invite you to contact: Financial Aid Office, Downtown Campus, or phone (919) 658-4933.

SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS SOON

The Spring Semester at Mount Olive College will begin Monday, January 9, with the opening of dormitories for resident students at 4 p. m.

New residents and commuters will attend an orientation session on Tuesday, January 10, and classes officially begin Wednesday.

NIGHT COURSES SET JANUARY 16

Night courses will begin Monday, January 16, with the following courses offered: Monday evenings—Photography 7—9 p. m.; The Free Will Baptist Church 7—10 p.m.; English Composition 7—10 p. m.; Introduction to Psychology 7—10 p.m.; Tuesday evenings—Accounting and Lab 7—10 p. m.; English Literature 7—10 p.m.; Drama 7—10 p.m.; Drama 7—10 p. m.; Introduction to New Testament 7—10 p. m.; Preaching and Pastoral Care 7—10 p. m.; and Introduction to Sociology 7—10 p.m.

Persons interested in attending may contact the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (919) 658-2502. Registration for night courses will be held the first night of class.

COURSES FOR THE CHURCH LISTED

Along with the regular scheduling of night courses for spring semester are three subjects of particular interest to pastors and church workers.

Monday nights from 7—10 p. m. beginning January 16, the Free Will Baptist Church will be taught by Dr. Michael Pelt, chairman of the Humanities Division. Tuesday nights from 7—10 p.m. beginning January 17, Introduction to New Testament will be taught by the Rev. Sheldon Howard and Preaching and Pastorial Care will be taught by the Rev. Frank R. Harrison.

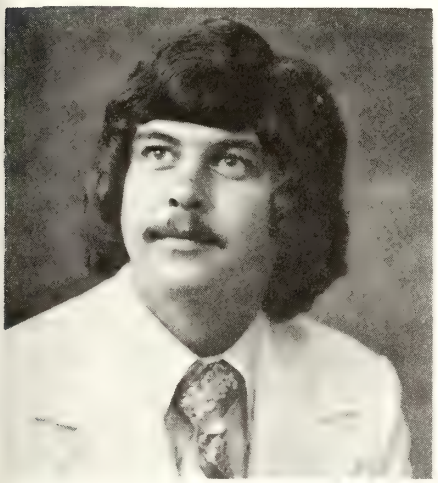
Interested persons are urged to contact the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (919) 658-2502. Ask about financial benefits.

NEW MEMBERS OF PHI THETA KAPPA



New members of Phi Theta Kappa, the junior college fraternity that recognizes intellectual achievements, were installed recently at Mount Olive College. President Anita Whitford presents membership cards to, from left, Louise Guy from Warsaw, Beth Roberts of Mount Olive, Marilyn Carter from Rooty Branch church out from Mount Olive, Elinor Ezzell of Mount Olive, Darlene Rose of Selma, Susie Griffin from Deep Run church in Deep Run, Judy Bass of Mount Olive, Harvey McLawhorn from New Bern, and Sharon Pelt from Mount Olive.

RAPER ORGAN PROGRAM SET



Burke Raper, a 1976 graduate of Mount Olive College, will present an organ program in Rodgers Chapel on Tuesday, January 10, at 8 p. m.

As an organ major at Westminister Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, Burke is performing at the invitation of the Mount Olive College Department of Music.

He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper of Mount Olive.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Nineteen year old Anita Whitford from New Haven Free Will Baptist Church in Vanceboro is this week's Student of the Week at Mount Olive College.

A sophomore at Mount Olive, Anita was co-chief of the Marshals her freshman year and co-recipient of the Perret Award given to the freshman having maintained the highest academic average of the freshman class. She stayed a deans list student although her activities included pianist for the New Creations gospel group, membership in Phi Theta Kappa and the Free Will Baptist Fellowship.



This year Anita is president of the Henderson Science Club and Phi Theta Kappa as well as a member of the Academic Honors Program. Anita was named to Who's Who Among American Junior College students and a member of the Pickle Classic Court.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey A. Whitford of Vanceboro.

Children's Home

WE NEED HOUSEPARENTS



"Parents, those that beget or bring forth," the dictionary says. Houseparents are those that bring forth. Many children have been born into the world and because of the social sins of our time or because of death have been left to be cared for by substitute parents, "houseparents." Deep within these little ones is a person, a soul. God loved that little person, that soul, so much that He died for him or her. Now we ask you, would you live for that little one? Would you reach into his or her little heart and "bring forth" all the talent, hopes and dreams that lie buried there? That's houseparenting. The Children's Home needs you. God is calling you to be a houseparent or to pray that His spirit will lead someone you know to become a houseparent. They need you. The blessing will be yours. Commit it to prayer today. Then write the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, P. O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557 or call 235-2161.

J. Stewart Humphrey
Executive Director

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"

mission work...

at home and abroad.

Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
Director—Treasurer
P. O. Box 979
Goldsboro, N. C. 27530

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
Fayetteville, N. C. 28305

NEW MISSION ORGANIZED IN RALEIGH



New Raleigh Mission

A new home mission site has been selected in Raleigh, North Carolina. The State Home Missions and Church Extension Department has endorsed the Rev. Ronnie Hall of Everett's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church to pastor the new work. Mr. Hall has become familiar with Home Mission work through doing mission supply pastoring for two or three years.

Everett's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Clayton, North Carolina, has requested to be the mother church. The Rev. Billy Yawn is its pastor.

Rev. Hall was ordained by the Western Conference in March of 1977. He is a graduate of Clayton High School and Hardbarger Business College with a junior course in accounting. He has been taking night courses at Mount Olive College since 1975, and has recently signed up for a home study course with the Faith Missions Correspondence School. He hopes to be taking more night courses at Mount Olive College in 1978.

Ronnie reports that his wife, Sue, is with him all the way. She was born in Raleigh; they have one son, Randy, age eight.

They will not start holding services until late winter for the inside of the building needs a lot of remodeling and repairs.



The Hall Family, Ronnie, Sue, and Randy

We wish to congratulate the Hall family and the Everett's Chapel church. Mr. Hall will continue to hold a full-time job while getting the work underway. He will be receiving payments, for expenses only, from the Church Extension for the present time.

Director Taylor Hill states: ''Surely such people, who are willing to sacrifice so much, deserve all the prayerful support that we can give them.''

The mission building is located at 1701 Glen Eden Drive, Raleigh, North Carolina. You go west on Hillsborough Street and turn right at the State fairground.

The Halls reside at 422 Barbour Street, Clayton, North Carolina 27520; phone, 553-6070.

The work will operate under the auspices of the North Carolina State Home Missions and Church Extension Department.

Send all Home Missions contributions to Director-Treasurer Taylor Hill, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, N. C. 28305.

A TRIBUTE TO THE REV. CHARLIE OVERTON

On November 2, following the regular Wednesday night prayer service, the members of Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Washington County, surprised their pastor, the Rev. Charlie Overton, with a combined birthday and anniversary party. In honor of the 15 years of dedicated service he has so faithfully given to Mount Zion, the church decided to take advantage of the Rev. Overton's birthday to show their gratitude to one who has proven to be a devoted servant of God, an energetic leader, and a warm personal friend to all.

After the prayer service was concluded, the adult choir stood and sang ''Happy Birthday.'' Mrs. Darlene Oliver spoke on the many accomplishments of Mr. Overton over the 15 years as pastor, noting in particular the number of souls that had been saved. She expressed the love and gratitude of all the members. The ladies quartet sang one of the pastor's favorite songs, ''Just a Rose Will Do.''

During the fellowship hour that followed, Mrs. Beulah Whitson and Mrs. Ruth Davenport presided at a buffet table. They served punch, miniature sandwiches, mints, nuts, cookies and a beautifully decorated cake.

Mr. Overton received many cards and love offerings. When he first came to Mount Zion, we had no choir at all but it wasn't long before there was an adult choir and during these 15 years a junior choir has grown up singing for the Lord. These young boys and girls are always present for all services including Wednesday night prayer meetings. Both choirs and the ladies quartet are directed by the pianist, Mrs. Lucille Jones. We also have a junior pianist, Gregg Oliver who plays for the Sunday school and league hour.

We had several singing groups at one time; some have married and moved away, but the Jones Family is still singing for special occasions.

Mount Zion church at one time had

services only once a month. Now it is a full time church and has been for 8 years. We used to have very few Homecomings, but since Mr. Overton has been with us, it has been made an annual event and a very happy and enjoyable one. We also have Sunrise services on Easter and on one occasion a New Year's Eve Watch Night Service was held. All of these along with the mid-week prayer service have been a blessing unto everyone.

Under the leadership of Mr. Overton and by his following the leading of the Holy Spirit with much prayer, the church has grown spiritually as well as in number, as the church membership doubled in number at one time.

Much improvement has been made on the church building. Two Sunday school rooms with bath rooms have been added, a heating system with air-condition, new windows, a new front entrance with a cement walkway, a new roof, and several paint jobs inside and out.

For all that has been accomplished we thank God and praise Him for all His blessings and the healings He has bestowed upon all. But most of all we thank God for His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour for all the souls that have been saved and we thank Christ Jesus for making all things possible to everyone who will believe in Him.

Mr. Overton is a very faithful and dedicated servant of God. We are thankful that the Lord sent him our way and we hope he can remain with us many more years to come.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Beulah Whitson

ATTENTION

The president of the State Sunday School Convention asks that each president of the District Sunday School Conventions please send him their name and address.

Send it to,
Mr. Stanley Jenkins
712 Cameron Drive
Kinston, North Carolina 28501

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from Page 7)

to work spiritual revolutions which will form eras in individual and Church life.

"We do not mean men who get up sensational stirs by novel devices, nor those who attract by a pleasing entertainment; but men who can stir things, and work revolutions by the preaching of God's Word and by the power of the Holy Ghost, revolutions which change the whole current of things.

"Natural ability and educational advantages do not figure as factors in this matter; but capacity for faith, the ability to pray, the power of thorough consecration, the ability of self-littleness, an absolute losing of one's self in God's glory and an ever-present and insatiable yearning and seeking after all the fulness of God—men who can set the Church ablaze for God; not in a noisy showy way, but with an intense and quiet heat that melts and moves everything for God."

Consistent praying and holy living are essentials to a happy and useful Christian life. One who short changes himself in Christian living is certain to short change himself in praying and in witnessing for Christ. Such a Christian will never attain unto joyous happy Christian living as the Holy Spirit who wrote the Bible exhorts us to.

Coming Events . . .

January 9, 10—Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet 9:30 a. m., Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden.

January 10—Burke Raper Jr. will perform a program of organ music at the invitation of the Mount Olive College Music Department in Rodger's Chapel, 8 p. m.

January 13—Ministerial Association Mid-year Banquet; 7 p. m. Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, near Pinetown

NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Stockholders of Cragmont Assembly, Inc. at the Press on Monday, January 9, at 10 a. m. Those representing stock are asked to be present.

Anyone elected by any group to represent stock in Cragmont. is asked to be present at this meeting.

NEWS NOTES

Quarterly Meeting Held by Laymen's League

The Laymen's League Fellowship of the Central Conference held its quarterly meeting Monday night, December 5, 1977, at the Bethany Free Will Baptist Church. Rex and Louise Wainwright and Judy Dail brought an inspiring message in song. Judy Dail led the league in singing.

A very enjoyable hour of fellowship was attended by 30 members with six churches represented. During the meeting, a collection of $28.40 was received and sent to Home Missions. Upon closing with prayer the meeting was adjourned to the Educational Building for refreshments.

The next meeting of the fellowship will be in March with Piney Grove as the host.

MY GUIDE

The open door of another year
I've entered by grace divine;
No ills I fear and no foes I dread,
For a wonderful Guide is mine.
Through joy or chastening though He lead,
In tears though my race be run,
Whate'er my lot, this my prayer shall be,
"Not mine, but Thy will be done."

I walk by faith in my heav'nly Guide,
With fearless, unfaltering tread,
Assured that He, who appoints my days,
Will daily provide my bread.
He'll send more grace should afflictions come,
And a staff for the pathway steep,
While o'er me ever by night and day
My Father His watch will keep.

With perfect trust in His love and care,
I'll walk to my journey's end;
And day by day He will strength renew,
And peace to my heart will send,
O blessed Guide, walking all unseen,
Yet close to my side alway,
Do Thou, who guidest my steps aright,
Lead on to eternal day!

—Gertrude R. Dugan

the Sunday School LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For January 8

GOD'S SUSTAINING PRESENCE

Devotional Scripture: Psalm 57
Background Scripture: Daniel 6

Memory Selection: "**. . . our God whom we serve is able to deliver us . . . But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, . . .**" (Daniel 3:17, 18).

I. INTRODUCTION

At first thought we might suppose that a good man would be spared from any great disaster. In actual life, this is not so. Some persons have turned to God through Christ supposing that henceforth no cloud would ever appear to darken their lives. But the clouds have come, and the storms have beat wildly upon them. At such times those who have learned to walk with God in brighter days have found His grace sufficient to sustain them even in the darkness.

The good man does escape many of the evil consequences that come upon the wicked as a result of their own wickedness. But often evil men themselves plot evil against the righteous. So it was with Daniel.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. THE TEXT EXPLAINED

As we continue our story of Daniel from last Sunday, we have reached the time of the reign of Darius, king of Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar, former kings, were dead. Daniel, because of his amazing usefulness to the court, was elevated to the highest rank any foreigner could attain in the empire.

Darius had set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes; and over these, three presidents, of whom Daniel was the first (vv. 1, 2). This placed Daniel in the top position, one he justly deserved. He had proved himself through the years; he was an old man now, probably in his eighties, and the king saw in him an **excellent spirit**, that is, he did his work well and held the king's esteem.

Daniel's position was important; he was in charge of **the whole realm**, something like the king's right-hand man. His story is similar to that of Joseph who also rose from obscurity to a high place. Behind the rise of both men was the power and direction of Jehovah himself.

Darius, and the kings before him, had tried to shape Daniel after their own ways, to instill within him the wisdom of their pagan culture. But the wisdom God had given Daniel was far superior to the wisdom of the world. God was present with Daniel in all of this, and His strength sustained him in every test. That same strength will sustain us in our tests.

Daniel's exalted position caused jealousy on the part of the Babylonian officials. After all, he was a mere Jew and a slave. Yet, they were helpless to do anything about it; the king had done the exalting. They could only try to find something in Daniel's life that was contrary to the ways of the king, something that would displease him. But Daniel's life was clean and faithful in service to the king; he had an "excellent spirit" (v. 3). These conniving men had to admit that they found no fault in him. Daniel had a Christlike spirit in him; remember that Pilate once said he found no fault in Jesus.

We may not like people who live close to Christ, but we find it hard to discover real fault in them. Like Daniel's, the excellency of their lives rebukes us, just as his life was a rebuke to the other presidents and princes.

After consulting among themselves, they agreed that the only way they could harm him would be to find something against him in relation to his religion.

They worked out a plan, but they had to have the king's approval so they went to him.

When they said **all** the presidents of the kingdom were in on this plan, they spoke falsely. Daniel was the chief president, and he was unaware of what was being done. This was a subtle **royal statute**, because they knew Daniel prayed to God daily, and that he would never pray to the king as he would his God. If the king signed this new law it would mean that Daniel would be destroyed.

Verse 9 tells us he did sign it. Daniel's enemies simply waited for him to disobey it. But God was with Daniel, and would sustain him by His presence.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)**

Several very wonderful things are revealed in this verse. First, Daniel knew that Darius had signed a decree that anyone who made a "petition to God or man for thirty days" would be thrown in a den of lions. Imagine what kind of thoughts must have passed through his mind. Think what emotions this must have engendered. Second, Daniel did nothing unusual. He did not try to retaliate in any way. He did openly flout the law. Note that he did not even have to open his windows; they were already open. The last phrase in the verse indicates that he only did what he had been doing before the decree. Do you think you could have reacted in this way? Third, this verse indicates that Daniel was a man of prayer. Here is the secret of Daniel's great power; he did not rely upon himself, but upon God. As was the custom of godly Jews, he prayed three times a day with the window that faced Jerusalem open.

With the satisfaction that comes to evil men when they see their plans working out, the men who had caused Darius to sign the decree found Daniel at the customary place, praying. Daniel, knowing about the decree, might have fouled their plan by simply praying in private, but he did not intend to allow the cohorts of Satan to change his regular place and schedule of prayer to avoid trouble. This would not have been a good witness to the power of his God.

The jealous men immediately went to Darius with the accusation that Daniel had defied the decree. Again there was an element of falsehood in their accusation. It was true that Daniel was praying, but in Verse 13 we are told that they said to Darius, ". . . Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, . . ." This

was untrue. Daniel and Darius were very good friends, and the Scripture bears out that they had great respect for each other. Because of this friendship, the king was greatly troubled. But he could not find a way to avoid putting Daniel in the lions' den.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

The fact that the king fasted and left off his merrymaking and had a sleepless night shows his great concern for Daniel. He rose early in the morning and hurried down to the lions' den to see what had happened to Daniel. He was surprised to see that Daniel was still alive, and he was curious to know just how it had happened. The unbelieving can never understand how God works in the lives of His people. They are curious and sometimes ask questions, but when the believer gives them the answer, they are not able to understand it. They do not have any experimental knowledge of God and His works.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

From the first instance of danger, an angel of the Lord had come and touched the mouths of the lions; and Daniel was safe. God recognized Daniel's purity and faithfulness, and He delivered him from sudden destruction. And Daniel, as he spoke to Darius, assured the king that no harm was done to the king's authority; Daniel had only disobeyed the law to preserve a good conscience.

The happy Darius had Daniel removed from the den, had him examined for wounds, and recognized that Daniel's faith in God had saved him.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)

III. HINTS THAT HELP

A. God has not promised to keep His people from trouble, but He has promised to be with them in their troubles. Daniel in the den of lions is an example of this. God could have kept Daniel out of the lions' den, but He did not. However, He did stop the mouths of the lions and give Daniel the protection he needed. So, when we are in trouble it does not mean that God has forsaken us; it is an opportunity for the power of God to be manifest in our lives.

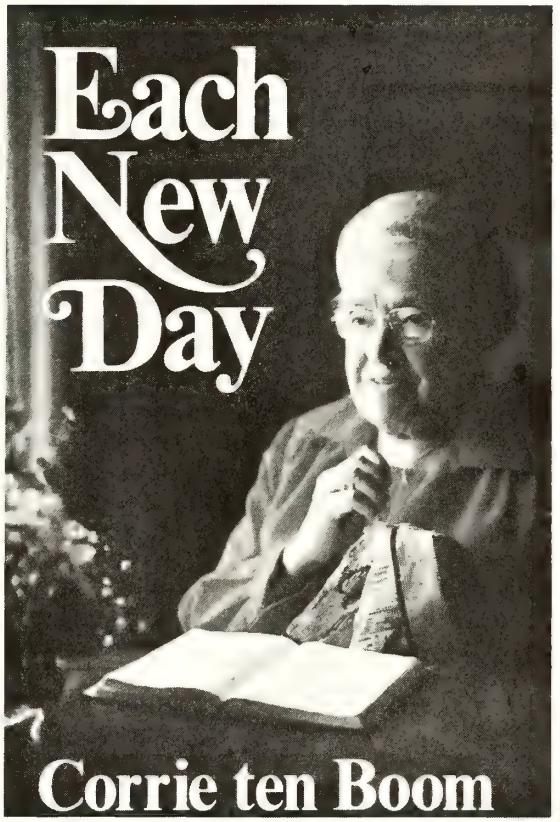
B. What good could come out of Daniel's enemies having him thrown in a den of lions? The people were able to see the power of God manifest in a way that they would never have been able to see otherwise. Best of all, it appears that Darius came to accept Daniel's God. Romans 8:28 is vindicated again.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

IV. THOUGHT TO REMEMBER

Any child of God who is steadfast in prayer and devotion to the Lord can possess the courage of Daniel.

—Standard Lesson Commentary



Each New Day

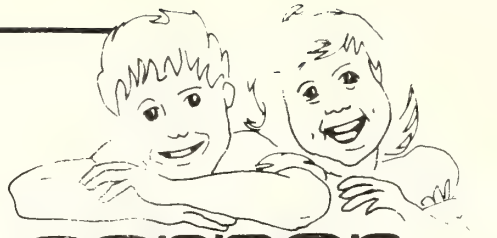
$7.95

An invitation to share Corrie's personal time with the Lord.

Here is the long-awaited daily devotional from a woman who has become widely known in her own time as a giant in the faith—Corrie ten Boom. There are 366 short messages, each followed by a relevant passage of Scripture and Corrie's prayer that the spiritual truth stated will result in greater awareness of God's presence and works. EACH NEW DAY is Corrie's personal way of reaching out with new hope and guidance that the Lord has given her to share. "There is something from God's Word for every day." Beginning with this simple statement of conviction, Corrie proceeds to prove her point in her characteristically warm, heartfelt manner. Now everyone can experience the same source of power that Corrie draws on—a quiet time with the Father.

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AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA 28513



story corner

LITTLE LOST PUPPY

by Nina Grace Register
Kinston, North Carolina

THE water was too cold for swimming, but Marty and David were happy to have a few days at the cottage. They had always liked the little house beside the water, and spent hours at a time walking along the shore searching for odd shells, sharks' teeth, or driftwood. This morning they were out before breakfast, wearing heavy coats and scarves.

David stooped to pick up a large shark's tooth. "Marty," he called, "look at this one! It's the biggest yet!"

Marty turned her head to one side, listening.

"David, what is that little noise?" she asked. "It sounds like crying."

David listened. Then he turned back to the water. "Oh, it's just the wind in the reeds." They walked on a little farther.

"No, it's not the wind," Marty insisted . "Listen."

"You're right," David agreed. "Whatever it is, it's alive."

Just then a boy came scrambling down the hillside. He was out of breath, anxiously looking in the reeds.

"Here, Inky," he called. Then he whistled.

"Hey!" David called, "we just heard something over here and we're going to look. Come on."

The boy ran to them. "My name is Herman," he panted. "I'm looking for a little black puppy, too young to be out here alone. In fact, the other five pups are at the barn with their mama, and she doesn't seem to miss him. He can freeze to death if he gets wet. So I've been looking ever since I went out to feed her this morning."

Marty and David introduced themselves and David said, "We're staying a few days at the cottage back there. We just heard something like crying over here."

While they were talking, they were searching in each clump of reeds near the water. Suddenly Herman whooped, "I've found him! I've found him!"

He held the shivering, fuzzy, little puppy close under his coat. "As soon as he gets warm now," he said, "he'll be okay. Then I'll put him back in the barn."

"Say, Marty," David asked, "doesn't this remind you of the Lost Sheep in the Bible?"

Marty answered, "Come to think of it, it surely does. Don't you think so, Herman?"

"I don't know what you're talking about," Herman muttered, embarassed.

"Oh, everybody knows that," David said. "It's a story Jesus told about a man who had ninety-nine sheep and left them all to go find the one that got lost. When he found it, he was so happy he called all the neighbors together to come see him. To be sure you've heard it at Sunday school?"

"No," Herman said, "I don't go to Sunday school. But I'd sure like to hear more about it."

Marty said, excitedly, "Well, come to our cottage, and we'll find it in the Bible and read it. Besides, you need to get warm too before you go back home."

Herman seemed happy to accept the invitation, and the three of them were soon in the cozy kitchen at the cottage. David got the Bible while Mother fixed a bed of an old blanket near the stove for the puppy. Then David read the Parable of the Lost Sheep in Luke 15:3-7. When he had finished, Herman rubbed his eye.

"That does sound like me, leaving all the pups to go find this one. What does it mean, though?"

Marty answered, "It means that Jesus thought enough of you to leave His home in Heaven, to come to earth to find you. We are all sinners in God's sight until we accept Christ as our Saviour. But when one believes on Him, then all the angels in Heaven rejoice."

"Really, for me?" asked Herman.

"Really for you," David whispered. "Won't you accept Him?"

Herman looked from one to the other. Then he looked at the puppy. He looked again at the Bible. "Oh, yes," he breathed.

They knelt beside the kitchen table and Herman prayed. "Thank you, Lord for coming to look for me, and thank you for finding me."

Marty and David whispered, "Amen." David added, "And thank you for sending us out so early this morning; and thank you for these few days at the cottage. This is our happiest vacation ever! Amen."



SMILE, GOD LOVES YOU

by Verna H. McLawhorn

Why wear a frown, when a smile is so much easier. It has been said that it takes many more muscles to frown than it does to smile.

A smile happens in a flash, but the memory may last for days. Often when we are feeling friendless and alone, we meet someone who greets us with a friendly smile, and right away our troubles seem to lessen.

Have you ever watched a small child when he hurt himself? He will immediately run to his mother or someone he knows who will pick him up and soothe him. In a few minutes, his tears are gone and he is ready to play again.

When you visit a sick person, talk of pleasant things, give him encouragement, and try to leave him in a better frame of mind than when you entered his room, he will surely ask you to come visit again soon. Everyone enjoys people who brighten their days.

When you go shopping, who do you go to for assistance? Not the clerk who is standing slumped over the counter looking as if the day will never end. You look for the one who acts as if she wants to help you with your purchases.

During this new year, why not make a resolution promising to smile more. Make someone happy each day, by saying a kind word, doing a good deed, or if those are impossible, just say, ''Smile, God Loves You, and I love you too.''

ATTEND THE FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE IN YOUR CHURCH

There are No limitations in life, except those we impose upon ourselves.

ISN'T HE WONDERFUL

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given . . . ; and his name shall be called Wonderful.

Isaiah 9:6

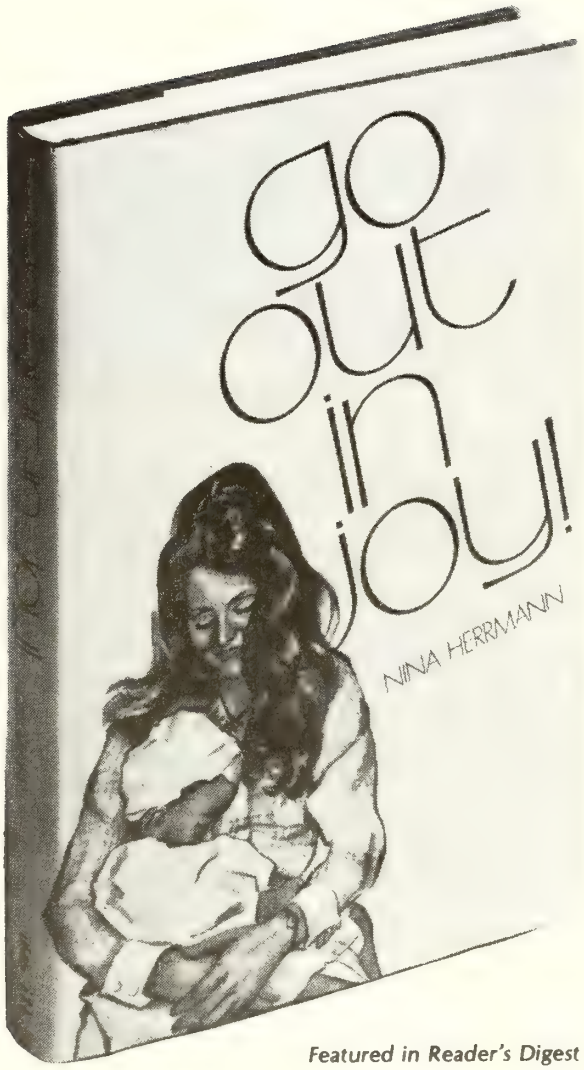
Everything about Christ is remarkable. Of Him it was said, ''(He) hath done nothing amiss'' (Luke 23:4), ''I find no fault in (Him)'' (John 7:46), and ''Certainly this was a righteous man'' (Luke 23:47). God himself declared from Heaven, ''This is my beloved Son; hear him'' (Mark 9:7). Yes, Jesus is unique and amazing because He is the only One who is both truly divine and sinlessly human.

An unknown author exclaims with wonder and adoration: ''Christ came from the bosom of the Father to the bosom of a woman. He put on humanity that we might put on divinity. (See II Peter 1:4.) He became a man that we might become the sons of God. In infancy He startled a king; in boyhood He puzzled the doctors; in manhood He ruled the course of nature. He walked upon the billows, hushed the sea to sleep, and healed the multitudes without medicine. He never wrote a book; yet the libraries of the world are filled with volumes that have been written about Him. He never penned a musical note; yet He is the theme of more lyrics than any other subject in the world. Great men have come and gone; yet He lives on. Herod could not kill Him, Satan could not seduce Him death could not destroy Him, the grave could not hold Him. All others have failed in some way, but not Jesus! This perfect One is 'altogether lovely.' ''

Not only is Christ matchless in His person and accomplishments, He is absolutely thrilling to know as Savior and friend. With Isaiah and millions of redeemed souls, I can testify that Jesus is truly WONDERFUL!—**Selected**

The next meeting of the Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will be held January 9 and 10, at 9:30 a. m. at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 1978,
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

REMEMBER:

JANUARY IS RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH

the free will baptist



Tommy Manning
Editor

Editorial . . .

RETIRE, EXPIRE, OR ASPIRE?
(Retirement Homes Month)

For many people, the word **retirement** suggests being cast aside. Too often the thought of reaching that age evokes despair, feelings of uselessness, and the "get-ready-to-die" syndrome. But while retirement does denote a period of **rest** from a job or other demanded activities (whether by choice or by force), it need not be dreaded. Retirement can be enjoyable, despite certain dangers.

Self-imposed retirement (or **exile**, if you prefer) can be dangerous. It can indicate an unhealthy desire for real withdrawal from worthwhile activities. This condition can produce psychological aches and pains to accompany those natural ones associated with the physical aspect of aging.

The "nobody-wants-me" attitude becomes evident. Many persons are unable to cope and thus sit in apathetic idleness, awaiting the release death might bring. Others communicate in voice and action that they actually **long** for that release.

It is sad that retirement often becomes synonymous with old age, sickness, and the inability to perform. Too often have we stereotyped persons who reach those golden years. Retirement does not mean senility; neither does it necessitate non-productivity. Nor does it require dissociation from friendship. Retired persons can, if they try, find others who have mutual interests and concerns. Even those lacking close, natural relatives can adopt or be adopted into a larger, and sometimes more loving, family.

Few people are really alone, unless they elect to be. There is somebody, somewhere, who cares and understands and wants to relate to the needs of the retired person.

Along with other groups, Free Will Baptists have sought to make provisions for those who have retired from life's occupations. Through the Retirement Homes program at Middlesex, a place is provided for retired ministers, denominational employees, and Free Will Baptist laymen. "From an act of faith, a Retirement Home for Free Will Baptist people was proposed, and, through faithful support of Free Will Baptist people, two faithful servants of our Lord and the Free Will Baptist Church have a comfortable home today. Our Retirement Homes consist of one duplex apartment located adjacent to the Children's Home. . . .Rental for an apartment depends upon the income of the prospective tenant. . . ."—**Devotion, 1978.**

Other duplexes are in the planning stages, and funds are being sought for their construction. Soon other individuals will reside in these comfortable homes; as needs are realized, so will needs be met.

There are few, if any, worthier causes that deserve the support of our people. Show that you care. Share you good fortune—great or small—by offering gifts to the Retirement Homes program. Someday **you** may reap the fruits of friendship and comfort which the homes can afford.

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THINGS TO LOOK FOR IN 1978

by the Rev. Jack Mayo
Pastor of Ormondsville Free Will
Baptist Church,
Ormondsville, North Carolina

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Matthew 7:7).

WE have a brand new year on our hands. What will it hold for us? We have 365 days that have never been lived by anyone else before. There are 52 weeks ahead of us just waiting to be molded to fit each of our schedules. A total of 8,760 hours unfolding one hour at a time, each affecting your life and destining your future.

Many unknowns lie ahead. Without faith, this can be a frightening experience—like trying to walk in darkness of night without a light to guide you. Someone has said, "Only two things are certain tn this life: Death and Taxes." But there must be more to look for in 1978. Let us look at least four things to look for in this coming year.

First, let us look for **The Pressures of Life.** There is pressure on the job. Unemployment is at an all-time high. The Government is raising the minimum wage each year forcing demands upon employees for more work for their pay. Competition is very keen. Both men and women are forced to work. Then there are the pressures of the home. There was a time about the only place to go was to church or country store. Today there is rollerskating, ball games, swimming, camping, clubs, and parties. If you stay at home there is television, television, and more television. No more family conversation, no more informal talking together of one member of the family to another. Also there is pressure today of the social life. We are still trying to "keep up with the Joneses." We have made luxuries to become necessities. No longer the simple life "down on the farm." Home made toys and games are a thing of the past. Too many are living above their income and their raising. God can help ease the pressures of life. Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). A great hymn of the church tells us we should be "Learning to Lean On Jesus." Let's trust Christ all the way and He will help us with "the pressures of life."

Secondly, we can look for **All of us to be Getting One Year Older** in 1978. Now for little children this can be great. To see their little bodies grow stronger and longer everyday. A child is a good example of the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus said, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14).

For the junior age; it is a time of running, jumping, the climbing of trees. They have a mass of energy exploding with each heartbeat. Time seems to stand still for them—always wishing they were older. Ask them how old they are and they always say: "Nine going on ten, or ten going on eleven" and so on.

Oh the teenage years are filled with getting the driving licenses, dating, the finishing of high school. Life is so confusing at this age. Should I do what seemingly everyone else is doing or be left out by saying, "no"? Young people, I challenge you to trust Jesus during this special time of your life. Christ will help you make the right decisions. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth" (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

The middle-age years seem to be the time we begin to hate birthdays. But this is a good time of life. You have settled down with a family and a job. Life holds the fullest only as we are serving Jesus. Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

The final stage of life we call the "senior citizens" age. "Don't call me that" someone may say. But by whatever name you want to call it, be thankful you are there because people who don't get old, don't live anymore. There are rich rewards for all who reach the final stages of life. Don't miss these rewards by feeling sorry for yourself. Surely the pace is slower, your hair may have turned gray or started falling out, but life is beautiful this time of life—as beautiful as the sunset of day. Life is not over by no means. True life only begins when this one ends.

The third thing to look for in 1978 is **The Mixture of Good and Bad**—times of being on top of the mountain. Seemingly everything is going your way. Your health is good, your crops producing to its fullest, not a problem or a care. Then bang, everything goes wrong; you are down in the valley of despair. Like Job of old, you lost your job, your health, and your friends; you feel you cannot take anymore. Just remember God's promise in 1 Corinthians 10:13, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." This new year will bring a mixture of both bad and good. Some will get richer and some will get poorer. Some will be getting married and some will be getting a divorce. Many will be born and many will die. But it takes the bad to make us appreciate the good. If we had good all the time, the good would seem to be bad. We can grow through our problems if we let Jesus walk with us in the valley.

The fourth thing to look for in 1978 is for the **Ending to be no Better Than the Beginning.** Many begin the new year with a list of resolutions which will soon be forgotten. Some begin the new year by turning over a new leaf which soon will be blackened with sin. Even good intention is not enough because we are not strong enough within ourselves to keep from falling.

Jesus Christ is the only foundation to build the new year upon. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11). Jesus was in the beginning. He has seen thousands of years come and go. He has a plan for you and me to use in 1978. It begins by putting Him first in your life, confessing your faults, weaknesses, and sins. Ask Him today for forgiveness and strength to overcome. Our text tells us to "ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." This is a good time to begin living for Jesus. Please pray for God's will to be done in life from this day forth. May we look for great things to happen in 1978.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 15
Scripture Reading—1 Peter 5:7

FEELING BAD WHEN FEELING GOOD

Said an old lady, "I always feel bad when I feel good, for I know that I'll feel bad after awhile!"

How senseless to thus punish oneself! Worry is a killer! Remember this, "A day of worry is more exhausting than a day of work." Is there a way of escape from the worries and corroding cares of our bothered, burdened world? Yes, there is: "Casting ALL your care upon Him, for He careth for YOU" (1 Peter 5:7).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Worry will get someone nowhere, but faith and trust in God will because He cares for His children.

MONDAY, JANUARY 16
Scripture Reading—John 3:16

LET GO!

This world holds nothing so dear
That Christ cannot give us more:
His love, His peace, His joy—
Far more than heart could implore
Our lives lose much He has for us
As we cling to our earthly ties:
In Him are pleasures forevermore,
Let go—for Christ satisfies!

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should let go and let God have His way with us. He can lead us in the right way.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17
Scripture Reading—James 3:13

WE CANNOT COME!

"Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Two fashionable girls, recently converted to God, were asked to a ball, and this is the answer they sent:

"We are sorry to have to refuse your invitation. But the fact is, it is not possible for us to be present with you, for we are dead! We died with Christ a week ago, so we cannot come!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we are converted we are to forget the things of the world as worldly parties and remember to love God by going to church.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18
Scripture Reading—Job 22:29

"I'M SCRUBBING FOR JESUS!"

"Sophie, the scrub woman" was questioned one day as she scrubbed the steps of a large New York City building thus: "Sophie, I understand that you are a child of God." "Yes, sir, I'm a child of the King!" "Well, since you are a child of the King, do you believe that God recognizes you as a princess?" "He certainly does," beamed Sophie. "Well, if God is your Father, and you are a princess, and a child of the King, don't you think that it is beneath your level to be found here in New York City scrubbing these dirty steps?" None daunted, Sophie replied, "There's no humiliation whatever. You see, I'm not scrubbing these steps for Mrs. Brown, my boss. I'm scrubbing them for Jesus Christ, my Saviour!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus Christ was an humble man. We should be humble to Him. How humble are you? Are you ashamed to kneel down in prayer to Him?

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19
Scripture Reading—Psalm 19:1

THE LORD HAS A JOB FOR ME

The Lord has a job for me,
But I had so much to do
I said, "You get somebody else
Or wait till I get through."
I don't now how the Lord came out,
But He seemed to get along;
But I had a feeling—sneaking like—
Knowed I'd done God wrong.

One day I needed the Lord,
Needed Him right away,
But He never answered me at all,
But I could hear Him say
Down in my accusing heart,
"Moze, I'se got much to do,
You get somebody else,
Or wait till I get through."
Now, when the Lord He have a job for me,
I never tries to shirk;
I drops what I has on hand,
And does the Good Lord's work.
And my affairs can run a long,
Or wait till I get through;
Nobody else can do the work,
That God marked out for you.

PRAYER THOUGHT

There are alot of things that one can do for God. A little child can carry flowers to a sick person or a mother can bake some cookies for that sick person. This is just one way to be kind and helpful to others.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20
Scripture Reading—Titus 2:7

THE ONLY ONE HE HAS

Miss Frances Ridley Havergal, soon after she became a Christian, went to a school at Dusseldorf. Her heart was warm with love for her Saviour, and she was eager to speak for Him. To her dismay, however, she soon discovered that among the hundred girls she was the only Christian. Her first feeling was that she could not confess Christ in that great company of unchristian companions. Her gentle, sensitive heart shrank from a duty so hard. Her second throught, however, was that she could not refrain from confessing Him. "I am the only one He has here," she said. And this thought became a source of strength and inspiration. She felt she was Christ's witness in that school, His only witness, and she dare not fail.

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we are Christians, we should always witness for Christ. He is a great person to witness for.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21
Scripture Reading—Luke 8:8

"HE DASN'T QUIT"

A young man had a class of boys in a mission Sunday school. Little fellows they were, and their new teacher's kindness and tact won them to him completely. After awhile the young man became discouraged with his efforts among them, and he decided to leave. He went down early the last Sunday, and overheard a converstation between two of the boys. One announced that he wasn't coming any more; Teacher was going to quit, and he was going to quit, too. "Why," said the other boy, "he dasn't

(Continued on Page 7)

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Who belongs to the true church of Jesus Christ? It seems to me that the Bible's description of a Christian would limit it there to small margin of those professing to be Christians.—A. E. H., Texarkana, Arkansas

Answer: Your conclusion is probably right. Jesus said: "So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen (Matthew 20:16); "For many shall come in my name, saying I am Christ: and shall deceive many" (Matthew 24:5); "For many are called, but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:14); "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:13, 14).

The whole world is called and offered membership under Bible restricted conditions. "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I well give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me: for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30); "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18).

For He is not willing that one single soul should spend eternity apart from His glory and goodness, but He makes repentance and obedience to the word prerequisites to companionship with Him in the church. "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9); "For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall" (2 Peter 1:8, 9, 10); "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;. . .For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it to turn from the holy, commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb. The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire" (2 Peter 2:4, 20-22); "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy. Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good. Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

The true church consists of those and only those that have been born of the Spirit and walk in the Spirit by faith and faith only. "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. . .That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit" (John 3:3, 6-8); "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. . .If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1.:5-7, 9).

Believing on Christ as personal Saviour is the first step in our salvation, and that comes by no other means than by the hearing of the gospel of Christ. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36); "But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness: and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. . .For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things. . . So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:8-11, 13-15, 17).

When the gospel has been preached and we have believed in our hearts and confessed Christ with our lips and our lives, then we study the Bible which is a spiritual lamp to our feet and light in our path and thereby grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ in this way the process of salvation makes progress for each day we are a more matured Christian than the day before. We know better how to eat and better how to live in the several complexed experiences, we encounter as the satanic forces of the world seek to alure us into some by path

(Continued on Page 7)

"A Christian Home for Boys and Girls"

free will baptist children's home

MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

HOUSE OF PRAYER SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES VISIT HOME



On Saturday, December 3, the Junior and Primary Sunday School Classes of the House of Prayer Free Will Baptist Church of Kernersville visited the campus of the Children's Home. Their teachers, Mr. and Mrs. David A. Atkins, and their pastor, the Rev. Mrs. Carlee Stallard, and her husband accompanied them on the trip.

The Junior and Primary Classes had worked very hard to raise $100 to bring to the Children's Home. They had put on a bake sale in their community in order to raise this $100 to provide food, clothing, and shelter for our children here at the Children's Home.

The Junior and Primary Classes of the House of Prayer Free Will Baptist Church challenge other small churches to have a project and raise some funds in the manner in which they did to bring to the Children's Home. We at the Children's Home wish to salute the Junior and Primary Classes of the House of Prayer Free Will Baptist Church of Kernersville and, indeed, to challenge other youth groups to consider making the Children's Home a part of their yearly program.

We would like very much to have someone visit your youth group and to present a slide presentation and to answer your questions about the Children's Home. We encourage you to come anytime possible to the Children's Home for a visit.

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS



We greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in this new year. The new year marks the end of our first six months as your executive director at the Children's Home. God opened the windows of heaven and blessed us beyond measure in the first six months. You have invited us into your churches on an average of two services per week to share with you what is happening in Free Will Baptist child care. We want you to be an informed people; and we will strive with all our might to share with you through the printed page, pictures, and in your church, the blessings of God upon the Children's Home, as well as the needs of our children.

If you have not had a representative from the Children's Home in your church recently, ask your pastor to invite one this year. Pastors, we would like an opportunity to thank you and your people for a job well done and to share the upcoming needs in our child care program.

Below you will find our schedule thus far for 1978. We encourage you to write or call us and set a date to visit your church. If you see that we will be in your area for a service at some nearby church, it would be a good time for us to visit with you. We look forward to visiting with you this coming year.

January 15, a.m: Piney Grove, Roper; January 22, a.m: Saint's Delight, Bridgeton; January 25, p.m: Elm Grove, Ayden; February 5, a.m: Aspen Grove, Fountain; February 12, a.m: Hickory Grove, Bethel; May 7, p.m: Deep Run, Deep Run; May 14, a.m: Shiloh, Albemarle Conference; May 14, p.m: Union Chapel, Plymouth; May 21, a.m: Spring Hill, Goldsboro; October 8, a.m: Malachi Chapel, Columbia; November 19, a.m: Elm Grove, Ayden.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. L. E. Styron is now available to pastor a church in eastern North Carolina. Any church that desires his services may contact him by writing the Rev. L. E. Styron, Route 1, Box 332-B, New Bern, North Carolina, or phone 637-6774 on week-ends or after 6 p. m. on week days.

The Rev. Charles W. Sugg is now available for full-time services, and is also available for revival meetings on a no-charge basis, within commuting distance of Goldsboro. Any church interested may contact by phone, 735-4489, or by writing Route 2, Box 609-N, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

The Rev. Jesse Benoist announces that he is available for pastoral or supply work. He may be contacted by writing the Rev. Jesse Benoist, Flowers Street, Rockingham, N.C. 28379; or phone, 919-582-2653.

The Otway Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Beaufort, is seeking a new pastor for full-time services. Anyone who is interested and qualified, please contact Mrs. Luella Taylor, Route 2, Box 677, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516; or call Mrs. Taylor after 4:30 p. m. at 728-3935.

". . . .O MAN OF GOD. . . ."
(I Timothy 6:11)

by Joe Hudson

Jesus said to Peter three times (John 21:15-17) ". . . .feed my sheep. . . ." and with those words the awesome responsibility was spelled out for the pastor concerning the people that he would lead. He must spiritually provide for his people but before he can do that he must know how to "feed" himself. In other words, the pastor's personal life must be in accord with God's will or he will not be able to "feed" God's people.

One part of the pastor's personal life that must be adhered to is his devotional time. A pastor should take time everyday to read the Scriptures. The Word of God is the source of "food for him and his people. By daily reading of the Scripture the pastors receives the inner strength that is needed for the job that is before him. The devotion time becomes a time of cleansing and renewing. Time should be set aside for prayer. It seems that the fruitful ministry belongs to those who make time for prayer. The power of God cannot be worked up to with fine oratory skills, but if must be prayed down with bended knees and a humble heart. The devotion time will also develop a sense of true worship for God. It is in the quiet places that God can teach a man how to worship so that he may know how to lead the people into worship as they come to God's house.

Another part of the pastor's personal life that is important is his home life. 1 Timothy 3:4, 5 plainly tells us that a man who can't handle his own house certainly can't handle God's house. The home should not be made second to anything. The great pastors, preachers, and evangelists that have been used by God in mighty ways are quick to put their family before all else. The pastor should not be a boarder in his own home but should carry the responsibility of guidance and love in a way that pleases God. His home should reflect unselfishness and cheerfulness. What is practiced at home reflects in the pulpit. Hospitality should abound in the pastor's home, not as a job, but as a joy. The welcome mat should be out at all times to those that come to the door for whatever reasons.

The pastor's social conduct should be given the utmost attention. Standing as a lady enters the room, complimenting people and common courtesy to all are just a few of the things he must observe. A sympathetic spirit and good listening habits will go far in making the pastor loved and accepted in his meeting with people. In this day of little time, many people never find someone who will simply listen. When we pray, what does God do? He listens. The pastor is told to pursue godliness. Therefore, a ready ear is a must in the ministry of God. A pastor's social conduct also includes his finances. The pastor must "feed" or set the example for his people. He cannot afford a scandal due to careless handling of his finances. Men look up to those that manage their business affairs in accord with the way they preach.

A devotional life, a godly home and a good reputation—these are but a few of the important parts of a pastor's life. A true pastor is a man without reproach of good report and who exhibits self control.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from Page 5)

or second best decision in the choice we are called upon to make and in each of these experiences we are better prepared to meet the next onslaught of Satan if only we remain obedient to the Word as the wife must of necessity maintain a closer relationship and harmony than either with any other except God. Therefore let no father or mother presume that because either is their son or daughter that they have such a place of agreement with either that these two have with each other as long as they live on earth.

Let no Christian any where presume that he or she may be as closely related to any one else as to Christ, but the next in closeness of relationship is the husband and wife. This order of relationship calls for a wife to honor Christ first, but after that her reverential affections centers in her husband and him alone. She has maternal love for her children, but as an example to the lost world she gives her most affective testimony as she obeys her Christian husband. She rules with him and under his direction of household and in this way symbolizes what the church will be to Christ throughout all eternity as it rules with Him in His Kingdom and like He now rules with God His and our Heavenly Father in His kingdom. See Romans 11:31-33; Revelation 19:7-9; 2 Corinthians 11:2-3. This teaching bars from interfering all mothers, fathers, mothers-in-law, and fathers-in-law as well as every other relative and friend.

NEWS NOTES

Executive Committee Meeting Planned

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues will be January 21, 1978, at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church at 10 a.m. The members of the Executive Committee are as follows: President, the Rev. Jack Mayo; Vice-President, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.; Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Leah McGlohon; Corresponding secretary, Miss Alice Lynn Hines; Promotional secretary, Mrs. Judy Coner. This meeting is called to plan the State Convention program which will be held this year at the Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church at Roper on March 11, 1978.

Family Devotions

(Continued from Page 4)

quit. Why, I was the first boy in his class, and one Sunday he told us kids that God sent him to teach us, an' he said God was his boss, and he had to do wot He said. He's God's man, and he dasn't quit." And the young man didn't quit.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God was no quiter. If we are Christians, we should work by the best of our ability to please Him.

Devotions used by permission *Knight's Master Book of Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

As we thank God for His goodness and gracious guidance through each varying circumstance during the past year of 1977, may we face the New Year of 1978 and the future with confidence that the memory of God's faithfulness will give birth to hope and that the Radiant sky behind us will illumine our forward path.

—Evangelist Arnold Woodlief

JANUARY IS RETIREMENT HOMES MONTH

_____ A place for you:
_____ Retired minister,
_____ Retired denominational employee,
_____ And you, Free Will Baptist layman.



For More Information, Write

FREE WILL BAPTIST RETIREMENT HOMES

Post Office Box 250;
Middlesex, N. C. 27557
or

Call: 235-2161

EACH CHURCH IS CHALLENGED TO GIVE $2 PER MEMBER FOR THIS YEAR.

"Of the many rewards that I have received from my years of service to the Free Will Baptist denomination, the greatest by far



is the beautiful and comfortable apartment in the Retirement Homes. Another is the visits of friends who come by whenever making a tour of the Children's Home campus. I love you everyone!"

—Bonnie Farmer

"In my work at the Children's Home I have received many rewards. Now I'm retiring and getting ready to move into our Retirement Homes. I know that is one of my rewards. It's a nice, cozy home, and I thank God for it and for everyone that has had a share in it. I look forward to our friends' visits anytime."



—Thelma Rulli

Mount Olive College

NIGHT COURSE SCHEDULE FOR SPRING

Night Classes begin Monday, January 16, beginning at 7 p. m. for the Spring semester with the following courses being offered:

Monday Night

Photography	Willis Brown
The Free Will Baptist Church	Dr. Michael Pelt
English Composition	Margaret Walker
Introduction to Psychology	Dr. Evelyn Mayer

Tuesday Night

Accounting and Lab	James Coats
English Literature	Sidney Johnson
Drama	John Robbins
Introduction to New Testament	Shelton Howard
Preaching and Pastoral Care	Frank Harrison
Introduction to Sociology	Andy Floyd

Students may register on the first night of class.

FREE WILL BAPTIST STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

The following Free Will Baptist students were named to the Dean's List for the fall semester, 1977.

Marla Ard of Christian Chapel (Lenoir County); Wesley E. Beddard of Elm Grove (Pitt County); Karen E. Bowen of May's Chapel (Wayne County); Shelby Bradshaw of Marlboro (Pitt County).

Also, Gregory H. Brown of Antioch (Wayne County); Mrs. Marilyn L. Carter of Rooty Branch (Wayne County); Amy Sue Griffin of Deep Run church (Lenoir County); Mrs. Teresa Caroon Grubbs of Trinity church (Beaufort County); Timothy W. Guffey of Friendship church (Johnston County).

And, Cindy L. Harrison of Hull Road church (Greene County); Gerald K. Herring of Casey's Chapel (Wayne County); David Hines and JoAnn Hines, both of Winterville church (Pitt County); James P. Holland Jr. of Stoney Creek church (Wayne County).

Also, Malinda Sue Johnson of Hopewell church (Johnston County); Pamela Sue Johnson of Calvary church (Wilson County); Danny Wayne Jones of Spring Hill church (Wayne County); Mary Elizabeth Magee of Croaton church (Craven County); Lisa Yvonne Potter of Daly's Chapel (Seven Springs).

And, Stephen L. Raper of Northeast church (Wayne County); Larry G. Shepard of Mount Zion church (Onslow County); Mrs. Vickie B. Singleton of Beulaville church (Duplin County); Cathy L. Strickland of Daniels Chapel (Wilson County); Mrs. Audrey B. Taylor of Elm Grove (Pitt County); and Marie Anita Whitford of New Haven church (Craven County).

"OTHELLO" TO BE STAGED IN MOUNT OLIVE

The William Shakespeare play "Othello" will be staged at the Mount Olive College Junior High School auditorium by the National Shakespeare Company from New York City on Tuesday, January 17, at 7:30 p. m.

Sponsored by the Concert and Lectures Committee at Mount Olive College, reserved tickets are on sale for $3 adults and $2 students. Tickets may be obtained by called 658-2502 extension 29 or writing Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina, in care of Mrs. Moore.

Tickets will also be available at the door.

Coming Events . . .

January 13—Ministerial Association Mid-year Banquet; 7 p. m. Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, near Pinetown

January 21—Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists, Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, 10 a.m.

THE PARADOXES OF CHRIST

He was the Light, ye He hung in darkness on the Cross.

He was the Life, yet He pured out His soul unto death.

He was the Rock of Ages, yet His feet sank into the deep waters.

He was the Son of God, yet He died a felon's death.

He was holy, undefiled, separated from sinners and knew no sin, yet He was "made sin" when He took the guilty culprit's place and suffered in his stead.

He bade the weary tko come to Him for rest, yet not on earth could He find rest until He said, "It is finished," and gave up His life to God.

He was the Mighty God, yet He became a man and was crucified through weakness.

He was the Image of the Invisible God, yet His visage was marred more than any man.

All the fulness of the Godhead dwells bodily in Him, yet He took on Him the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men.

He spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast; yet He humbled Himself and became obedient—even unto death.

He was the Desire of All Nations, yet He was despised and rejected of man.

He is the Fountain of Life, yet upon the Cross He cried, "I thirst."

Can you understand these mysteries? These are the things that angels desire to look into. The heaven cannot contain Him, yet He died for us.

—Faithful Words



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

I would like to say that I love the Lord with all my heart. There has never been a more special time in my life than when I saw a soul saved under unusual circumstances.

This one special time my husband and I were visiting in a resthome. My husband was reading Scripture to a dear brother in Christ when I noticed the man on the other bed was following him with his eyes. He could not speak, for he was paralized bodily as well as in speech. I went to him and asked him if he knew Jesus as his Saviour, and he shook his head no. I asked my husband to come and explain the plan of salvation, and he did. As we were leaving, we asked the man where Jesus was now. He pointed to his heart.

I just praise God for leading me to that man.

GWL
Beulaville, N. C.

Have you mailed your reply to the column concerning the manuscript? Remember the deadline is January 15.

Maggie

January
has been designated by the
North Carolina State Convention
as Retirement Homes Month

MY CHOICE

I want my breakfast served at eight
With ham and eggs upon the plate.
A well-broiled steak I'll eat a ''one''
And dine again when day is done.

I want an ultra modern home,
And in each room a telephone;
Soft carpets, too, upon the floors,
And pretty drapes to grace the doors.

A cozy place of lovely things,
Like easy chairs with innersprings.
And then, I'll get a small TV—
Of course, ''I'm careful what I see.''

I want my wardrobe, too, to be
Of neatest, finest quality.
With latest style in suit and vest.
Why shouldn't Christians have the best?

But then the Master I can hear,
In no uncertain voice, so clear,
''I bid you come and follow me,
The lowly Man of Galilee.

''Birds of the air have made their nest,
And foxes in their holes find rest;
But I can offer you no bed;
No place have to lay my head.''

In shame I hung my head and cried,
How could I spurn the Crucified?
Could I forget the way He went,
The sleepless nights in prayer He spent?

For forty days without a bite,
Alone He fasted day and night.
Despised, rejected—on He went,
And did not stop till veil He rent.

A man of sorrows and of grief,
No earthly friend to bring relief—
''Smitten of God,'' the prophet said—
Mocked, and bruised, His blood ran red.

If He be God and died for me,
No sacrifice too great can be
For me, a mortal man, to make;
I'll do it all for Jesus sake.

Yes, I will tread the path He trod,
No other way will please my God;
So, henceforth, this my choice shall be
My choice for all eternity.

—Bill McChesney, Congo Martyr

the Sunday School LESSON

St Claire Bible Class

For January 22

GOD'S SUSTAINING PRESENCE

Lesson Text: Daniel 6:3-7, 10, 11, 16 19-23
Memory Verse: Daniel 3:17, 18

I. INTRODUCTION

When the writer of Hebrews recorded that by faith some "stopped the mouths of lions" (Hebrews 11:33), he was thinking of Daniel. There is no more effective way of rendering harmless the lions of temptation and the insidious evils of the world, the flesh, and the devil than to grasp the shield of faith with a firm hand and face them boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus. For "The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles" (Psalm 34:17).

When the three Hebrew children were cast into the fiery furnace, in chapter three of Daniel, many have asked about Daniel. He is not mentioned as being present at the time. It is likely that he had been promoted and had been separated from the others. In this lesson today, we may ask, "Where were the three Hebrew children?" Daniel was now an old man, and they might have been dead, or again perhaps they had been separated from him since his promotion.

C. I. Scofield, editor of the Scofield Reference Bible, tells this story: "Within a week after my conversion, I passed by the window of a picture store in St. Louis, and I saw hanging in a window an engraving of a painting of Daniel in the den of lions. The prophet, with his hands behind him, and the lions, circled about him, is looking up and answering the king's question. The one thing I was in mortal fear of, in those days, was that I might go back into my sins. I was a drunken lawyer in St. Louis when I was converted, with no power over an appetite for strong drink, and I was so afraid of a barroom or hotel or a club, that when I saw I was coming to one I would cross the street. I was in torment day and night. No one had told me anything about the keeping power of Christ. I stood before that picture and a great hope and faith came into my heart, and I said: "Why these lions are all about me, my old habits and sins, but the God that shut the lion's mouth for Daniel can shut them for me.' I learned that my God was able to deliver me from the lions. Oh, what a rest it was!"

As we study this lesson, it is our prayer that we will see that each one of us may have personal victory over the lions of self, sin, and Satan. May we gain great confidence from the sustaining presence of our Lord in the times of trouble and temptation.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. "You must choose between the Bible and science—they cannot both be right." "You have a right to be yourself. Don't let Christian morality restrict you too much." "You are too busy to take time for Christian worship and fellowship." "Don't be a religious fanatic! One hour a week on Sunday morning is plenty!"

B. The value to the person involved lies in his firsthand knowledge of God's power to deliver. A further value comes in the testimony such experiences present to the unbelieving, the doubtful, and the fearful.

C. There appears to be a kind of popular deism practiced today. Quite a number of people appear to have a rather vague belief in the existence of God, but they live as though He were far away. And there are hints of a kind of deterministic belief in the statements of youth who blame their radical acts on the oppressive power of the "Establishment."

D. God has chosen to allow the wicked to live side-by-side with the good on this earth. As long as both are living together the wicked will persecute and trouble the good. Also, it is true that if we never suffered, we would never be able to appreciate the depth and power of God's sustaining grace.

E. We certainly are not free to decide for ourselves when a law is unjust. Christians may practice civil disobedience only when a law clearly violates a Biblical command.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. It has been said, "The same Almighty Hand that gave the sun his light-giving, life-sustaining power in the physical world, provided life and light also for the spiritual world." How true this is! The "Sun of Righteousness" is the Son of God, Jesus Christ the Righteous. It was He who said that He was the Light of the world. He also said He was the Way, the Truth, and the Life for all men who would become His disciples.

B. Gold was one of the most desirable things in the psalmist's day, and still is, here as well as over the world. But what good is gold or wealth if we do not have the living Word within us? We should be able to agree with David that the indwelling of God's laws, His gospel, His truth, and His ways in our lives are far better than anything the world can give. The sweetness of these qualities is as honey and its comb. Isn't this enough reason for praising the Creator?

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

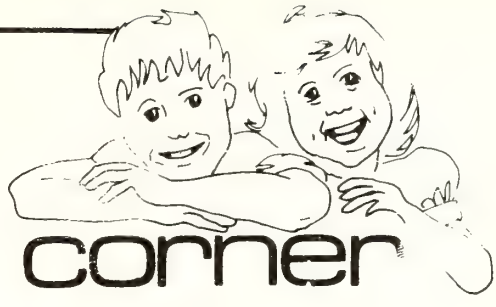
CHURCH PEWS NEEDED

Anyone having any church pews for sell or know of any church that has some, please call Kinston, 523-2354 or 523-3505, or write Marlene J. Everett, 2813 Murray Hill Road, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

NOTICE

This is to state that the Rev. R. P. Harris and the Rev. Wiley Lewis are no longer members of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

Central Conference Ordaining Council
Rev. Jack Mayo, secretary



story corner

THE GREAT STORM

IN spite of Moses and Aaron's warnings of the terrible things God would send upon Egypt, the Pharaoh would not give his permission for the Hebrews to leave Egypt.

God turned all the water to blood for seven days. The smell of the dead fish was awful. The people were so thirsty for some pure water. They dug wells all around but there was no water to be found.

Still Pharaoh would not listen.

Then God caused frogs to invade Egypt. They covered the land and the homes of the Egyptians. The place of the Pharaoh was as full of frogs as the other homes. Can you imagine how angry Pharaoh was when he could not eat for the frogs kept hopping around in his food? And when he went to bed he found his bed was full of frogs!

The frogs, of course, did not harm anyone but there were so many of the slimy things. Pharaoh's magicians could not get rid of the frogs. The people could not kill them all. As fast as they killed them, more came out of the rivers.

Pharaoh would not keep his promise because he said the frogs were not gone but only dead.

God sent a worse plague to Egypt. The people suddenly found the land alive with lice. This was worse than the frogs for the lice would bite the people and itch them as they crawled over the body.

But Pharaoh still would not let the Hebrews go. He said the lice would soon die as the frogs had and he would still have the valuable slaves.

So God sent swarms of flies to Egypt. These flies probably carried disease germs as do our flies today.

This was almost more than the Egyptians could bear. They could not get away from the filthy flies. It made it harder to bear when they could see the Hebrew slaves were not bothered with them at all.

Again Pharaoh promised Moses he would let the Hebrews go if only Moses would get rid of the flies.

Moses prayed to God and all the flies swarmed off. There was not a single fly left in Egypt.

So Pharaoh said to Moses. "We are not bothered with flies now so why should I let them go?"

Moses said, "But your word, you promised."

"I was a desperate man. Promises made in that manner do not have to be kept. I will not let them go."

Moses warned, "If you do not keep the promise God will attack your sheep and cattle."

But Pharaoh would not listen.

The next day every sheep, cow, ox and goat of the Egyptians died.

Pharaoh went to see what had happened to the few cattle and sheep of the slaves. Not a one was dead or even sick.

Pharaoh was angry. Instead of frightening him so that he would let the Hebrews go, he became more determined to keep them.

God told Moses and Aaron to go to the furnaces and take handfuls of ashes and throw them into the air in the presence of Pharaoh.

They did this. As the handfuls of ashes were thrown into the air, they became a cloud of dust that settled on all the Egyptians. Everywhere the dust settled a boil arose!

All the Egyptians were covered from head to toe with painful boils. Even Pharaoh was covered with these awful sores. But the Hebrews had no boils.

Pharaoh became angrier. He knew in time the boils would heal and it was not worth hundreds of slaves to get rid of them sooner. So he still would not let them go.

By now the Egyptian people were beginning to wish Pharaoh were not so stubborn. Each plague had been worse than the one before. They had lost all their cattle, sheep, goats which were used for meat and they had lost the oxen they used to plant their fields.

They were now covered with boils so painful they could not work or rest. They shuddered to think what would happen next.

But still Pharaoh would not change his mind.

God told Moses to go back to Pharaoh and warn him that if he did not let the Hebrews go, far worse things would happen.

"Tell him the terrible things I will bring upon him and his people will be talked about all over the world."

Still Pharaoh refused. Moses warned him that hail would fall so thick and hard it would kill every man or beast who was caught in it.

Pharaoh did not believe but many of the Egyptians did and they gathered in their houses not daring to go out for fear the hail would come.

It did come. Moses stretched out his staff toward the sky and the hail began to fall.

No one had ever seen such a hail storm before. The thunder roared across the sky, the lightning flashed and burned as it struck. The hail fell so thick and hard that if killed those who had not hidden.

It was a terrible storm. After it was over, the Egyptians were sick at heart when they saw the damage it had caused their crop. Nothing was left standing. They would have to clear away the mess and begin all over again.

Still in the part of Egypt where the Hebrew slaves lived there had been no storm.

During the worst of the storm even Pharaoh had become frightened. It seemed to be the end of the world. He told Moses, "I have sinned. Because of my stubbornness, my people and my land are wrecked. Please ask God to stop this awful storm and I will not keep the Hebrews here."

Moses went outside of the city and spread out his hands. He prayed to God and suddenly the storm stopped. The thunder and lightening were no longer.

But as Pharaoh looked over the crops he began to change his mind. It was true that the crops which were up were ruined. But all was not lost. There were still late crops which had been planted but were not up. They were not harmed. The people would not starve.

So again Pharaoh sent word to the Hebrews that he would not let them go.

—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

SOLVE THE PUZZLE

The words below are hidden in the puzzle above. They can be found vertically, horizontally, frontwards, and backwards. The remaining letters spell a message for you to begin the new year.

P G O E C N E I T A P D H A G C A N S F W H C

R S F O R G I V E N E S S I O S O T R O B O

A N Y E V I R T U E S P T R U U T I R E R H M

I O H M I W N G S F I E O I I R F T U E K R M

S I R U P T I H E R F A E G N T E A T D W E I

E T E W M A H S E O D C C H G E I R H O Y C T

A O W R E B T T D O S E O T T S L I F M C N M

A V A N D T L H L O V E M T H Y E M U E N A E

T E R I G H T E Y E M S F I R T B D L O E T N

H D D H A P P I N E S S O T G U E D N I T N T

H A S S E C C U S S H I R H O S S S E V S E Y

E C O D E T E R M I N A T I O N N T S I I P T

F U L F I L L M E N T D P N D C H O S N S E I

S I C N O I T C E F F A D G R A C E E E N R N

U F F E L L O W S H I P I S M I L E O J O Y R

O R T C O U R A G E H O F S R E Y A R P C E E

I E N I L P I C S I D W Y E R A C T F U N H T

T R A N Q U I L I T Y E G N A H C O S W I L E
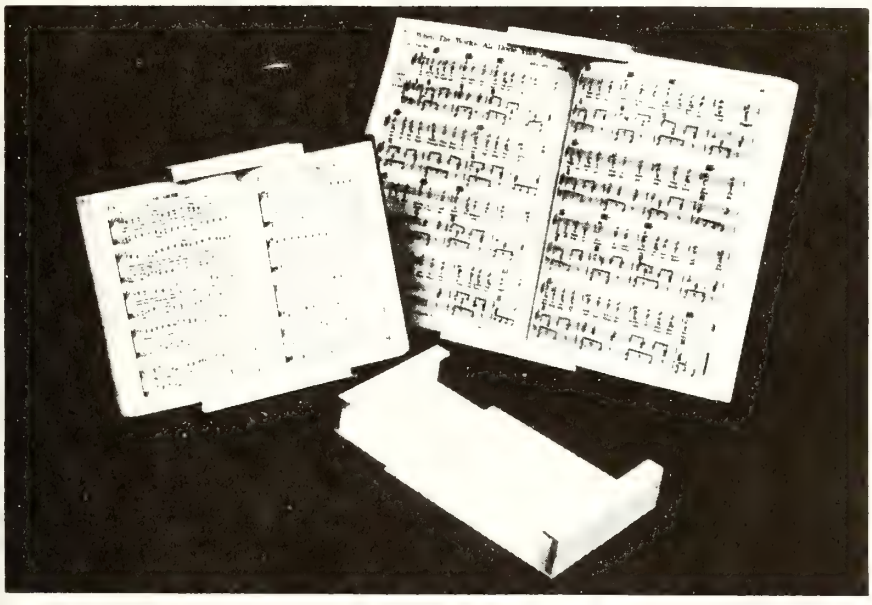
I H O P E C O N T E N T M E N T L N R E E H C

B P R O S P E R I T Y O T Y T I S O R E N E G

M E C I V R E S S S E N D N I K H A V E H O I

A S B N O I T A V L A S E S T Y T I N A M U H

admiration
affection
ambitious
aspire
belief
care
change
cheer
comfort
commitment
consistency
contentment
courage
courtesy
determination
devotion
discipline
divine
edify
eternity
fellowship
forgiveness
freedom
fulfillment
fun
generosity
giving
good
grace
happiness
honesty
hope
humanity
humble
joy
kindness
Love
patience
peace
praise
prayer
prosperity
right
repentance
rewards
salvation
service
smile
success
sympathy
tithing
tranquility
trust
truthfulness
virtue
wisdom
work



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A COUNTRY CALLED HEAVEN

by Oswald J. Smith

I want to tell you of a strange and wonderful country, a country where there are no tears or heartaches, a country in which there is no sickness, pain or death. The people who live in this country never get tired. They carry no burdens and they never grow old. No one ever says good-bye, for separations are unknown, and there are no disappointments.

In the country of which I am speaking, there is no sin, for no one ever does wrong. There are no accidents of any kind. You will travel for thousands of miles and never see a cemetery or meet a funeral procession. There are no undertakers and no morgues. You will never see crepe on the doors, for no one ever dies. There they need no gravediggers and coffins are unknown. The clothes that are worn are bright and glistening and no ne dresses ir mourning.

It is a country where nothing ever spoils. The flowers never lose their fragrance and the leaves are always green. There are no thunderstorms, no eruptiog volcanoes, and no earthquakes. Upon those fair shores hurricanes and tidal waves never beat. There are no germs or fevers, no pestilence of any kind. The sun never shines and yet it is always light for there is no night there. It is never too hot and never too cold. The temperature is exactly right. No clouds ever darken the sky and harsh winds never blow.

There are no drunkards in this country for no one ever drinks. None are immoral; men as well as women are pure. There are no illegitimate babies. Prisons, jails and reformatories never darken the landscape. Doors have no locks and windows no bars, for thieves and robbers never enter there. No lustful books are read, and as for unclean pictures, they are never seen. No taxes are paid and rents are unknown. It is a country free from war and bloodshed.

Yes, and let me tell you something else. There are no cripples to be seen anywhere; none are deformed or lame. Nor is anyone blind, deaf or dumb; hence, homes for incurables have bever been built for all are healthy, all are well and strong. No beggars are seen on the streets for one are destitute and all have enough. Leprosy and cancer, palsy and tuberculosis are words that this country has never heard. No asylums are there, for none are feeble minded. Doctors are never needed and hospitals are unknown.

You ask me how I know all this? Have I been there? No, I have not yet had the privilege of visiting this wonderful country, but others have. And One, at least, who has lived there for a long, long time, has come, and told me a great deal about it. He says it is called heaven, and this is His description of it: ''Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain.'' (Rev. 21:3-4).

Do you want to go there? Then get ready now. It isn't difficult. All you have to do is to open your heart to Jesus Christ, the Lord of the country, and ask Him to come in. Then, when the journey of life is ended, you too will go to this wonderful country and well there for ever more. Will you do it? Do it—NOW?—**Uncle Ben's Quotebook**

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Eleven months to go . . . .

the free will baptist

AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1978



Tommy Manning
Editor

Editorial . . .

THE TIME THAT'S LEFT

The new year has come and already seems to be leaving some of us behind. The resolves we so sincerely made are weakening, if not already broken. Even if we express dismay, we know that all this is not too unusual.

Yet, some of us have found ourselves living in the "winter of our discontent." We feel scathed by Fortune's unkindness, and we lick our wounds and bare the scars of former hurts. We dwell on yesterday's happenings and disdain to make a new beginning. We already worry about what the end will bring, but we make no real effort to remove the obstacles that stand in our way or to improve our lot. Paradoxically, we are happier in our misery. Something about complaining provides needed relief—even a measure of comfort.

So we lament, orally as well as silently, the perplexities of life that have beset us. We are sorely distressed and burdened, not only by *real* problems, but by *imagined* ones as well. Often the imaginary ones are of such magnitude that they are stifling. Those mental burdens are heavier than the physical ones—and harder to bear. Proportionally, they are more numerous. We feel trapped.

But the new year has come! Things are supposed to be different—better! But alas! We are being torn asunder by the too-rapid departure of this new measure of time. We pull against it, foolishly hoping and trying to make it stand still. We know that it waits for no man, and we have been told as much on numerous occasions; but somehow we have expected it to yield to our nagging insistence.

We persist, or desist, as the case may be. We expected the new year to straighten itself out. Actually, we are the ones who must change. We *can* change—for better or for worse. We make time what it is. It is in our hands, at our disposal. We do with it what we wish, as often and whenever we choose. We waste it or we use it. We relish it or we despise it. We are its guardians.

Marred by the abuses of mankind, the year is quickly aging. Struggling to achieve is paramount in the lives and ambitions of many individuals. They think their methods justify the attempted ends, so it matters little whom they hurt or what they do to reach their goals.

There are others who quit before they started. It seems that they believed that what they hoped for was impossible anyway. Their defeat was somebody else's victory. They felt no compulsion to strive for any worthwhile goal. Achievement holds no allurement for them.

Complacency gives rise to more complacency. After a while, the little motivation one has dwindles to nothingness. Stagnation sets in. Not only do people drag their feet, they stop altogether. They go nowhere, alibiing that they have no place to go.

Having no place to go, or the thought of having no place to go, indicates pure laziness. There are many places to go and many things to do, for those people who are willing to exercise the diligence required. In the Christian realm, indifference is unhealthy; and a negative attitude is dangerous, if not disastrous.

Every generation devises a scheme to fit its own needs. Ours has seen the birth of more than one such scheme. Fast living, loose living, and immoral

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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CONSCIENCE GOVERNS ONE'S LIFE

by Woodrow Hill

A great preacher, Newell Dwight Hillis, once described conscience as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night which guides one on his journey until he arrives in the "summer land where he needs no light of the lamp, neither light of the sun." He compared one's conscience to a box of safety matches protected by the woodsman against rain, snow, and dampness, and carried into the cold wintry country as a life saving device, a necessity if one were to survive. He declared that man can afford to lose his health, but not his conscience, suggesting that if one stumbles, and the torch of conscience falls, it should be quickly snatched up and relighted at the altars of God.

While Shakespeare suggests that conscience "makes cowards of us all," the word of God proclaims that it is an essential factor in deeds of integrity and bravery. It was this which led Daniel into the lion's den, and the Hebrew Children into the fiery furnace. It was also conscience which directed Joseph in rebuffing the lustful wife of Potiphar, and ultimately elevated him to the position of prime minister of Egypt, where he became an instrument for the salvation of God's people in time of famine. It was conscience in the brothers of Joseph which brought them to repentance after they sold him into slavery in his youth. When enlightened through the clarion voice of conscience about their wickedness, they said one to another: ". . .We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul, when he brought us and we would not hear; therefore is this distress come upon us" (Genesis 42:21).

The Bible abounds with admonitions on the necessity of a "good conscience" if one's life is to be lived properly, and in righteousness. Even the Scribes and Pharisees detoured from their judgmental courses of finger-pointing and stone-throwing when they heard the instructions of Jesus concerning themselves and the woman taken in adultery, whom whey were ready to destroy. The apostle Paul in answering for his life and doctrine before the Roman governor, Felix, spoke of his hope in God, and added, ". . .herein do I exercise myself to have always a conscience void of offense toward God, and toward men" (Acts 24:16).

A good conscience is not standard equipment coming with each model in humanity, but is a quality developed through lengthy and proper instructions, motivations, and strenuous exercises in discipline. Conscience is not a safe guide until it has been well trained and time-honored through much discipline.

Conscience includes the whole set of values and ethical standards concerning right and wrong which have been programmed into one's being. It is woven into the fabric of his personality through influences from the home, church, school and the community of which he is a part. Ultimately the decision on the quality of one's conscience, and its sensitivity, is made by the person himself. If his choices and training have been well structured and thought out, he will reap satisfaction and self-respect from the way he lives.

The feeling of satisfaction and self-respect which comes to one who has a clear conscience is worth more than any other accumulation of wealth which can be garnered into the life of a human being. Paul told Timothy: ". . .the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned" (1 Timothy 1:5). He suggested that one can make shipwreck of his life by putting away a "good conscience" (1:19).—**Biblical Recorder**



SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
Scripture Reading—1 Peter 5:7

COUNTING ON GOD'S CARE

When America was young, those brave God-fearing ancestors battled with cold, hunger, wild beasts, and hostile Indians. At the edge of a settlement stood a cabin, the home of an aged Quaker and wife. One evening at family worship, the wife read the Ninety-first Psalm. After prayer and retirement the Quaker asked, "Mother, didst thou leave the latchstring inside tonight?" "Yes, Father, I did," replied the Quakeress. "Well, since thou readest, 'Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day,' I think we should leave the string outside." The godly Quaker arose, put the latchstring outside and went back to bed saying, "God will take care of thee and me." Toward midnight the door opened; whispering was heard. "Twas the chief, consulting with his braves. Soon the door closed and all was quiet. In the morning when the Quaker and his wife looked out, the village lay in ruins. Theirs was the only cabin standing. The Indian chief had gone to their cabin that night with murder in his heart, but was struck by the tiny string dangling on the outside. To him it spelled trust and friendship. But to the aged couple "it was the hand of God."

PRAYER THOUGHT

The hand of God can touch anything. Isn't God's hand wonderful? He looks after everything from tiny babies to aged people.

MONDAY, JANUARY 23
Scripture Reading—1 John 3:2

BEYOND OLD AGE

Mrs. Eliza Kirk of London, England attained the ripe old age of 101. She celebrated the anniversary by removing all mirrors from her home. The reason given for her strange action was: "I like to think of myself as I was, not as I am." The believer can do something vastly superior to removing mirrors. Without attempting to ignore or forget his present appearance, he can place the telescope of prophecy to his eye of faith and see himself as he is going to be (1 John 3:2).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Man should not try to prophecy the future. Only God knows what the future will bring forth.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24
Scripture Reading—Proverbs 29:1

A FORGOTTEN VOW

Several years ago a young mother was desperately ill, so to a Christian neighbor she made this vow: "If God will spare my life one more time, I'll be a different woman. I'll take my children to church, and try to raise them the way God would have me do." She recovered completely and for a season remembered her promise, but as time went on she began to drift back into her old sinful ways. One day, while riding with an old friend, they both took a little nip of gin, and that resulted in a fatal auto wreck. The nearest phone to her home was the Christian lady's to whom she had made her vow. When the message was given, the godly woman simply turned from the phone and said, "She, that being often reproved hardeneth her neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy" (Proverbs 29:1).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we forget God during the day when we are doing our daily chores? We should always remember Him.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25
Scripture Reading—Matthew 28:20

ALWAYS!

When David Livingstone sailed for Africa the first time, a group of his friends accompanied him to the pier to wish him Bon Voyage. Some of them, concerned for the safety of the missionary, reminded him of the dangers which would confront him in the dark land to which he was journeying. In fact, one man urged Livingstone to remain in England.

In response, David Livingstone opened His Bible and read aloud the portion of our Lord's last recorded words in Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 28: "Lo, I am with you alway." Turning to the one who would have prevented his going, the missionary said: "That, my friend, is the word of a Gentleman. So let us be going."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should always be a gentleman for God if we are a Christian. God loves us.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26
Scripture Reading—Psalm 100:2

"THERE'S THE REASON"

Some students of the Moody Bible Institute were in a terrible automobile wreck. Their car was demolished. Miraculously, the students escaped with only minor injuries. Their escape from death was a matter of general discussion by those who saw the wrecked car before it was towed from the highway. "How was it possible that the occupants of this demolished car escaped with only minor injuries?" asked one onlooker. A stranger, pointing his finger in the direction of the rear glass in the wrecked car, said, "There's the reason!" Resting flatly against the glass was a booklet-tract, whose title could be plainly seen, "God's Presence with His People!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you ever been in a wreck? Did you get hurt? Or did you escape injuries? God has His hand on you.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27
Scripture Reading—Psalm 63:1

"I MUST PRAY MORE"

A young man had been called to the foreign field. He had not been in the habit of preaching, but he knew one thing, how to prevail with God; and going one day to a friend, he said, "I don't have no special talent." His friend said: "My brother, God wants men on the field who can pray. There are too many preachers now, and too few prayers." He went. In his room in the early dawn a voice was heard weeping and pleading for souls. All through the day, the shut door and the hush that prevailed made you feel like walking softly, for a soul was wrestling with God.

To his home hungry souls would flock, drawn by irresistible power. In the morning hours some would call and say: "I have gone by your home and have longed to come in. Will you tell me how I can be saved?" or from some distant place another would call saying: "I heard you would tell us here how we might fine heart-rest."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Praying never hurt anybody. Praying without ceasing helps in a Christian's way of life.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28
Scripture Reading—Psalm 65:2

"LORD, WHAT A CHANGE!"

Lord, what a change within us one short hour
Spent in Thy Presence will prevail to make!
What heavy burdens from our bosoms take!
What parched grounds refresh as with a shower?

We kneel and all around us seems to lower,
We rise, and all, the distant and the near,
Stands forth in sunny outline, bright and clear.
We kneel how weak, we rise how full of power!

Why therefore should we do ourselves this wrong,
Or others, that we are not always strong,
That we are ever overborne with care,
That we should ever weak or heartless be,
Anxious or troubled, when with us is prayer,
And joy and strength and courage are with Thee.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you pray in the morning or at night? It is good to pray everyday, because God loves you and doesn't want you to forget Him.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

The next meeting of the Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will be held January 23 at 9:30 a. m. at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden.

Mount Olive College

MRS. RILEY TO SPEAK

Mrs. Dianne Brown Riley associate director of admissions at Mount Olive College will teach the Senior Sunday school class and speak at the 11 a. m. worship service of Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday, January 28.

The pastor is the Rev. Jack Mayo.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Lenoir County on Sunday, January 22, at the 10 a. m. and 11 a. m. worship services.

The Rev. Norman Ard is pastor.

REGISTRATION CLOSES JANUARY 20

Registration for spring semester will close Friday, January 20. Persons interested in enrolling should contact the Admissions office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; or phone (919) 658-2502. Ask about financial aid.

ATTENDING MOUNT OLIVE IS FAMILY TRADITION

Lynne Sheffield of Warsaw is a freshman at Mount Olive College. So was her brothers, Johnson, Steve, David, and Ronald.

"I didn't have to look at a catalog to know what Mount Olive offers," Lynne said. "My brothers always told me I'd like it."

Lynne and her brothers were born and raised in Warsaw by Charles and Mary Sheffield of Meadowbrook Lane. Mr. Sheffield is a salesman at Bostic-Hawes Car Sales in Wallace and Mrs. Sheffield is an aide at Warsaw Elementary School.

When asked why she chose Mount Olive College for the education of her children, Mrs. Sheffield explained, "Before the children were old enough to consider college, we used to watch the College adding buildings and growing as we rode by on Highway 117. I was aware that Mount Olive College was a Christian school and I found that it offered my children the things a mother wants them to receive in college."

As a 1977 graduate of James Kenan High School, Lynne was one of several students from that high school attending Mount Olive.

"I knew there were students coming from James Kenan to Mount Olive, but they didn't influence my decision. I already knew I was coming," Lynne said.

"Some of my friends came because it was close to home and they wanted to go to a small college first," Lynne explained. "I think for me, it is a good beginning before I transfer to a large four-year school."

Lynne is unsure of her major, but she is interested in biology, French, and English.

The Sheffield's first son, Johnson, came in the fall of 1968. After graduation he transferred to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is now an accountant with Strand, Skees, and Jones in Greensboro.

The second Sheffield son, Steve, came to Mount Olive in the fall following his brother's graduation in 1970. He majored in English and became good friends with English Professor, Sid Johnson. They still keep in touch with one another. Steve also transferred to the University of North Carolina and remained in Chapel Hill after graduation. He is a sales manager at Triangle Office Supply of Chapel Hill.

David Sheffield arrived at Mount Olive in 1972 and stayed for one year before transferring to UNC-Chapel Hill to pursue a degree in pharmacy. He now lives in

(Continued on Page 7)

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: What do you think of Halloween parties being held in the church building; the kind where buying and selling is carried on with a great deal of hilarity?

Answer: I do not think well of them neither do I in any way condone that kind of activity in conjunction with the church of the living God. If a local church's activities can not be supported by tithes and offerings we do need them. On the other hand, I do not regard the assembly hall building or what ever you may name the physical structure in which a church assembles to worship as being guarded like the temple in Jerusalem.

Nothing is said in the Bible about the kind of church building, its dimensions, equipment and how it is to be guarded and regarded equipped and protected as is true of the temple that God gave the instructions concerning. I have read and heard arguments that assert that church buildings since they are buildings in which worship services are to be carried on should be constructed and maintained like God directed the Jews to construct, equip, and maintain the temple building, but I do not so interpret anything taught in the Bible to support such a view.

Some of the Early Church members met to worship in synagogues and some in the temple at times, but probably most meetings were carried on in the home of members but some on the outside of homes, some in jails, on the banks of rivers in boats, and in the open air by the seashore or where else they could find suitable space to accomodate the number wanting to worship. It may be that we as church members give too much time, energy, and other values in the construction and maintenance of buildings and not enough to worship and soul winning.

The Bible instructs us to take the Gospel into every part of the world even to every creature. But the church as a whole seems to have lost sight of that vision many, many years ago and begun to major in minors and minor in major tasks. God's commandments on this subject seem to have drifted into a little considered category.

I do not believe that any local church that uses more of its income in its local affairs such as the construction of buildings maintaining them, formulating programs and maintaining them, schools and benevolent products included than in sending the Gospel to those that have never heard it is in any way pleasing our Lord Jesus Christ who gave up what all He gave up in Heaven to come to this sin cursed world to be mistreated as He was, bore our sins in His body on Calvary and died for us as He did for every lost soul who has not yet heard one time. We, the church of the living God, need to bring our values into line with the Word of our God.

Joshua told those he was responsible to be influencing: "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15). Please also the preceding and the following verses in this chapter.

We do not serve God unless we obey His word. "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubborness is an iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king" (1 Samuel 15:22, 23). If we are not careful Satan will influence us through our carnal or fleshy nature to assume we are doing well as Christians when in reality we are following the devil as we cater to the old nature. We may do this in joining in a worldly or fleshly contest, building better schools, better hospitals, better old folks' homes and what else may make a visible show while perhaps 90 per cent of the people of the world are dying and slipping off into an eternal hell day by day.

I cannot conceive of any one that pretends to follow the Lord's instructions as given in the Bible resorting to worldly tactics such as having sales in a Halloween party to secure funds to support any type of God's programs through the church. Here's how the Bible directs us to secure needs funds by which to financially support the church including any benevolence that might be Biblically carried on:

"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come" (1 Corinthians 16:2). Here is an Old Testament command quite in line with what the New Testament teaches on giving: "Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee" (Deuteronomy 16:17). Compare "For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not" (2 Corinthians 8:12). Jesus seems to be sanctioning tithing in "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone" (Matthew 23:23). At least He is saying the representatives of the Jews should pay tithes, but not leave undone the fulfillment of their other duties.

It is not enough for us, the members of the spiritual body of Christ that we pay tithes and give offerings. Paul says to us: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of our mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:1, 2). Then Paul writes of the loyal Christians that they first gave themselves. This would imply that they gave all that belongs to themselves together with their bodies a living sacrifice. Such would have no need to resort to carnal method of raising money to support the Lord's work such as your question suggests.

"For to their power, I bear record, yea, and beyond their power they were

willing of themselves; Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints. And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God'' (2 Corinthians 8:3-5). God wants most of all that sinners be saved and secondly, that they continually give their lives, their whole selves to the glory and service of the Lord. Nothing else will come up to either the Old Testament's nor the New Testament standards. ''Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday'' (Psalm 37:3-6); ''Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase'' (Proverbs 3:5-9).

The followers of Christ should go every where that there are human souls to be found and win them for Christ. Such loyal followers would not have the time to spare to sponsor Halloween parties and there would be no reason for them to resort to that kind of means for them to resort to that kind of means to foster the church in its out reach for lost souls and when a church puts winning souls second to any other activity it is no longer worthy to be called a church

GOD GAVE TO US

by Mrs. Hersel Bowen
Winterville, North Carolina

God has given most of us five ways in which to serve Him How are we using them?

Our eyes to read His Word. God intended for us to see the beauty of this world, the goodness in men's hearts to see the greatness of His love for us. Take time to look around. Don't waste your time going through life peeking into the keyhole of sin. Have you ever closed your eyes? What did you see?—absolutely nothing! That is how a lot of us live. We don't see the things which really matter—the love of a friend, the tears of a mother for her wayward child, the heartbreak that could be mended if only we took the time to see the lonely of this world. Take a few moments to stop—chat a little, see the need—the need in which God intended for our eyes. I pray our eyes will be opened that we may see what God would have us do after we see the need.

Our ears to never have careless hearing. To be able to hear God's Word as it is taught to us in Psalm 34:15, ''The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry''; Psalm 34:17, ''The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

To be deaf—not to hear music, the voices of our family and friends, or a life of silence, we are so blessed that we can hear. In hearing, may we bless others with the telling of the story of Jesus Christ. What a glorious gift, the gift to hear all the sounds God has given us.

Touch: Oh! to feel an arm of love, to be able to feel the love of God all around us. God has given us so much to touch. Yes, we touch someone's life each day. Our way of living, speaking, or smiling touches some heart. May we never touch anyone with hurt or harm. May our words be our bond of living. We should say what we mean and mean what we say. We can heal the hurt and harm by always being honest. Touch someone today with love. God is reaching down right now to touch us and let us reach up to touch Him

Smelling: Our noses get into a lot of trouble sometimes. May we ''nose'' around in our own affairs. Isn't it great to smell the flowers, the pies and cakes baking, and the pines as we walk among the trees Have you ever walked into a crowd and smelled the happiness there? You may say ''I've never heard of smelling happiness!'' Try it sometimes; the odor of happiness is so sweet! Also sadness leaves an odor of grief. May we try to put into this life a sweet odor that will follow us all the days of our lives

Taste: We have so many great things in this life to taste, the saving grace of Jesus Christ and the sweet taste of God's Word We must eat food to live, but to really live we must have Jesus Christ in our heart.

If we have something really tasty we want to share it with others. Let us all share Jesus Christ and His Word today. The more we eat from the Word of God, the more we'll have to share with others. May our cups run over into the world about us—so all may taste the goodness of God's love.

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 5)

Winston-Salem where he is employed with Revco Drugs.

The Sheffield's do have a daughter, Marion, who although did not attend Mount Olive, did not break tradition. She attended her mother's alma mater, Louisburg College, to major in special education.

Ronald is the last Sheffield son to attend Mount Olive. He began in the fall of 1976 and is presently a student.

The last of the eight Sheffield children are Mark, a junior and Vic, a sophomore at James Kenan High School.

''The first time I brought my first child to Mount Olive, I saw a cooperation here. The people seemed to say, I care about your child,'' Mrs. Sheffield remarked. ''That is the way it's always been since and that makes a big impression on me. I intend to encourage my last two boys to go to Mount Olive College, because it just makes a good beginning,'' she concluded

Coming Events . . .

January 23—Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet 9:30 a. m., Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden

January 28—Fifth Eastern Union Meeting, New Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church, Grantsboro

January 28—Cape Fear Union Meeting, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Erwin

January 28—Western District Youth Fellowship, Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, 7:30 p. m.

February 25—Western District Youth Fellowship, Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, near Clayton, 7:30 p. m.

March 18—Western District Youth Fellowship Spring Convention, Mount Olive College Chapel, Mount Olive, 9:30 a. m.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. JOHN E. WHICHARD

On Friday night, October 7, 1977, the soul of our beloved sister in Christ, Mrs. John E. (Nita) Whichard, 79, took its flight to be forever with the Saviour whom she adored and served so faithfully for so many years. She was in Lenoir County Memorial Hospital in Kinston at the time.

Funeral services were conducted at the Wilkerson Funeral Chapel at 3:30 Monday afternoon by the Rev. Willis Wilson, pastor of Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, assisted by her pastor, the Rev. Franklin Brinson. Burial was in Greenwood cemetery.

Mrs. Whichard spent most of her life in the Sweet Gum Grove community and had been a resident of Greenville for the past twenty years. She was a charter member of the Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, the Sweet Gum Grove Extension Homemakers, a member of Circle Number 1 of Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, and she organized and taught a Sunday school class in her church around forty years.

She is survived by her husband, John E. Whichard; one son, J. Eric Whichard of Route 1, Stokes; four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Mrs. Nita contributed much to her church, community and denomination as long as she was able. Her life was long and useful and will be greatly missed but our loss is His gain, for as much as we hated to see her go, we realize God has something far better in store for her for the Christian life she had lived. She left a pleasant memory that will never fade. To her much devoted husband who cared for her so faithfully and with much patience, and the family, we express our deepest sympathy, and to the Lord we are grateful for the devoted life she lived.

We hated to part from her so,
But when God calls, we all must go.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Esper Futrell, Chairman
Mrs. James Smith
Mrs. Provot Lassiter



Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, NC

CRAGMONT TREASURER'S REPORT

October 1—December 31, 1977

Balance Brought Forward October 1			$ 2,500.00
Receipts			
Albemarle District			
Sidney	$101.00		
Sunday School Convention	5.00		
Union Meeting	22.23	$ 128.23	
Cape Fear District			
Goldsboro, First			
Dorcas Circle	10.00		
Senior Sunday School Class	25.00		
Hopewell	40.52		
Lee's Chapel Sunday School	39.51		
Palmer Memorial	57.49		
Dr. and Mrs. Burkette Raper	100.00		
Saint Mary's Grove	50.00		
Smithfield, First	150.00		
Wooten's Chapel	73.50		
Yelverton Grove	100.00	646.02	
Central District			
Burress Insurance Agency	50.00		
Bethany	33.87		
Daniels Chapel	250.00		
Bible School	24.78		
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	36.83		
Edgewood	70.00		
Elm Grove	133.00		
Fourth Union	7.43		
Greenville, First	125.00		
Grimsley	58.16		
Gum Swamp Youth (Central Youth Project)	1,000.00		
Howell Swamp	25.00		
King's Cross Roads Adult Sunday School Class	42.62		
Ormondsville	25.20		
Otter's Creek Sunday School	22.96		
Owen's Chapel League (Karen Elizabeth Skinner Memorial Fund)	25.00		
Piney Grove, Pitt County Adult Sunday School Class	75.00		
Reedy Branch	5.00		
Sunday School	35.00		
Rose Hill Sunday School	5.00		
Second Union	13.39		
Tarboro, First	165.00	2,228.24	

Eastern District		
Beulaville	100.00	
Carteret County Union	15.00	
Crab Point	45.00	
Deep Run Auxiliary	100.00	
Fifth Union	25.00	
Fifth Sunday School Convention	10.00	
Gray Branch	100.00	
Juniper Chapel Sunday School	40.83	
Mount Zion, Pamlico County	25.00	
Saint Mary's	285.00	
Y.F.A.	156.00	
Third Union	25.00	
Third Sunday School Convention	30.00	
Warden's Grove Intermediate Sunday School Class	20.00	976.83
Pee Dee District		
White Oak		
Thomas and Hattie Bright	200.00	200.00
Western District		
Fellowship	50.00	
First Union	136.60	
Flood's Chapel	5.00	
Free Union	183.04	
Mr. and Mrs. Lester Duncan	20.00	
Friendship		
Auxiliary	100.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Armie Strickland	30.00	
Verena Johnson	125.00	
Kenly		
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Oliver	32.00	
Little Rock	208.00	
Marsh Swamp		
Mr. and Mrs. James Hunt Sr.	25.00	
Milbournie	69.00	
People's Chapel Sunday School	5.00	
Piney Grove	30.00	
Pleasant Hill Sunday School	50.00	
Pleasant Plain Y.F.A.	10.00	
Rains Cross Roads Auxiliary	100.00	
Rosebud	100.00	
Saint Mary's	375.00	
Selma	25.00	
Sherron Acres	124.50	
Stancil's Chapel Sunday School	105.00	
Stoney Creek	1,000.00	
Unity, Durham	75.00	
Western Conference	300.00	
Wilson, First	550.00	
Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Skinner	50.00	
Intermediate Girls Sunday School Class	25.00	3,908.14
Others		
Cragmont Board Members (Karen Elizabeth Skinner Memorial Fund)	80.00	

(Continued on Page 14)

CONCORDIA AND LOCAL BOOKSELLERS JOIN TO ACCENT CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN READING

Concordia Publishing House and Christian booksellers around the country are beginning a concentrated effort to encourage families to give their children books that have a Christian message and uphold traditional values. "Good Books for Growing Kids" is the theme.

"As we all know, the lessons learned in childhood are never forgotten," said Pat Mckissack, Concordia children's book editor. "How vital then that we expose our children to Christian literature during those growing years."

Local bookstores will create eye-catching displays of high-quality, wholesome children's books. Their efforts will also include book fairs, contests and other events in which children and their parents can participate.

"Today's children are bombarded with harmful influences, and Christian parents are growing increasingly concerned," stated Concordia president Ralph L. Reinke as he announced the program. "As Christians, we need to 'accentuate the positive,' and that's where 'Good Books for Growing Kids' can make a big difference."

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. L. E. Styron is now available to pastor a church in eastern North Carolina. Any church that desires his services may contact him by writing the Rev. L. E. Styron, Route 1, Box 332-B, New Bern, North Carolina, or phone 637-6774 on week-ends or after 6 p. m. on week days.

The Rev. Charles W. Sugg is now available for full-time services, and is also available for revival meetings on a no-charge basis, within commuting distance of Goldsboro. Any church interested may contact by phone, 735-4489, or by writing Route 2, Box 609-N, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

The Rev. Jesse Benoist announces that he is available for pastoral or supply work. He may be contacted by writing the Rev. Jesse Benoist, Flowers Street, Rockingham, N.C. 28379; or phone, 919-582-2653.

NEWS & NOTES

Mount Zion Church Youth In Action

Praise the Lord for young people! The young people of Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Pamlico county went Christmas caroling on December 23. They visited many of the church families and shut-ins.

On Christmas morning these people filled the choir and presented special music. There were two solos by Randy Caroon and Ernie Ensley. Randy is also the assistant Sunday school superintendent. Ernie, Lisa Hudson, and Lori Ann Rowe share the job of playing the piano for Sunday school and church services.

A float, which was worked on by the young people and the young in heart, won first place in the Bayboro Christmas Parade. The theme was "Go and Search for the Young Child."

The young people of the church are a tribute to the church, community, and the work of God. Thank you, youth, for the contributions of time and talents!

Fifth Eastern Union Meeting To Meet January 28

The New Bethlehem Original Free Will Baptist Church, four miles southwest of Grantsboro, Pamlico county, at intersection of state roads 1100 and 1101, will host the Fifth Eastern Union Meeting on Saturday morning, January 28, at 10 a. m. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
10:05—Devotions, the Rev. Bobby Brown
10:15—Welcome, the Rev. A. Graham Lane
—Response, the Rev. Paul Burroughs
10:20—Moderator's Remarks, the Rev Ralph Sumner
10:30—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Receive Church Letters
—Offering for Children's Home
—Appointment of Committees
10:45—Denominational Enterprise Reports
11:15—Business Session
—Old Business
—New Business
—Reports of Committees
—Library Book
11:30—Memorial Service
—Worship Service
—Hymn, Congregation
—Message, the Rev. Ray Williamson
—Lunch
—Fellowship

The officers of the Fifth Union Meeting are: the Rev. Ralph Sumner, moderator; the Rev. Calvin Heath, assistant moderator; and Mrs. Harvey Whitford, secretary.

Western District Youth Fellowship Calvary Church

The Western District Youth Fellowship will be held on Saturday, January 28, at 7:30 p. m. at the Calvary Free Will Baptist Church at Wilson. All churches are urged to be present for some important business.

Children's Home Sunday Pleasant Hill Church

On January 22, Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church will observe Children's Home Sunday. The church is located on Highway 43 near Calico Cross Roads in Pitt County. Miss Donna Glisson and her choir from the Home will be the guests. All the surrounding churches are invited to this morning worship service, which will begin at eleven o'clock.

Dedication Service at Owens Chapel Church

The pastor, the Rev. Swade Benson, and the people of Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City, thank the Lord for His blessings. God has so bountifully blessed them in so many ways, that they want to publicly thank Him for His goodness in the year of 1977. They had a new storage room built onto the church, a baptistry with a picture of the River of Jordan painted on the wall, and new floors put down in the bathrooms. The ladies auxiliary put new rugs and curtains in the back Sunday school rooms. A dedication service was held so all these things could be dedicated unto the Lord.

Mount Zion Church To Host Meetings

Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Roper, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting, Sunday School Convention, and League Convention on January 28. The programs are as follows:

Union Meeting

Opening Session Mrs. Lucile Jones, Pianist
10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Stanley Buck
10:00—Welcome, Mrs. Ronda Davenport
—Response, the Rev. Melvin Moore
10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charlie Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time

Business Session

10:40—Report of Children's Home. Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College. Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Press, Via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

Morning Worship

11:10—Hymn
11:20—Special Music, Host Church Ladies Quartet
11:25—Message, the Rev. Charlie Overton

2:00—Benediction
—Adjournment and Lunch

Sunday School Convention

)pening Session

1:30—Devotions, Miss Kimberly Oliver
1:40—Welcome, Sunday School Supt. Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
-Response, the Rev. Floyd Burkey
1:45—President's Message, the Rev. Billie Reynolds
2:05—Enrollment of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches and Delegates
—Bringing Reports and Receiving Blanks
—Announcements
—Offering for Children's Home
—Offertory Prayer
2:10—Suggestions and Information for the betterment of Sunday Schools

Business Session

2:15—Minutes of Last Convention Read for Information
—Treasurer's Report
—New Business
—Minutes Read and Approved

Afternoon Worship

2:30—Special Music, Host Church
2:40—Benediction and Adjournment

League Convention

7:30—Devotions, Miss Patricia Jones
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music, Host Church
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business Period
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Adjournment
—Pianist, Mr. Craig Oliver

Visual-Aid Education Seminar at Wooten's Chapel Church

Area churches are requested to attend a Visual-Aid Education Seminar at Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Raleigh, January 16 and 17, at 7 p. m. for the advancement of God's kingdom. Please pray much and plan now to participate. The Rev. David Charles Hansley will be the instructor. Certificates will be awarded. The Rev. J. B. Caton Sr. is the pastor and membership chairman.

Cape Fear Union Meeting
Pleasant Grove Church

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will be held at the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Erwin, on Saturday, January 28. The program begins at 10 a. m. The schedule is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, Theadora Wilkins
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, the Rev. C. M. Coats
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading of Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message the Rev. Dallas Pinkham
12:00—Report of Treasurer

January
has been designated by the
North Carolina State Convention
as Retirement Homes Month

The Time That's Left

(Continued from Page 2)

conduct in general are the acceptable forms of behavior by today's standards. The proprietous people of yesterday would look askance, if not openly condemn such behavior—and with good reason! The Bible is still the Christian's guidebook, despite "valiant" attempts to defame it. The Word will straighten our paths as well as our lives.

To straighten a life, though—especially the hardened character of one which is bent toward personal destruction—requires more than the reciting of high-sounding advice. *Active instruction* must be coupled with didactic teaching. Hardly a person would deny the fact that the world needs a fresh installment of inner integrity. Too few exhibit that elusive quality anyway.

No one wants to suffer under the tongue of a moralist, a prophet of doom who wants to make people do right. Still, we must admit that the true rapture of living exists in doing good (or *right*, if you prefer)—not because doing so is *imposed*, but because it is *welcomed*.

We know that mistakes abound. We all make them. We err when we promised ourselves (and others) that we would not err. The new year was fresh, clean, and error free until we tarnished it. And while it is *impossible* not to make mistakes, it is *not impossible* to do something about them.

A wise man once said that the great virtue of a person lies in his ability to correct mistakes and to make a new man of himself. Thus, the greatness of man does not lie in his fault-free character; it lies, rather, in striving to correct those faults.

We still have eleven months. . . .

the Sunday School LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For January 29

PRAISE TO THE CREATOR

Lesson Text: Psalm 19:1-10
Memory Verse: Psalm 19:1

I. INTRODUCTION

This is the first of five lessons from the Book of Psalms. This will be welcome news to those who look upon Psalms as their favorite book in the Bible; to others, who are not as well acquainted with the book, it will be an opportunity to get better acquainted with some of the greatest devotional writings in the world. No portion of the Bible surpasses the psalms for devotional value.

Our lesson today deals with two of God's masterpieces—His material creation and His written Word. The material creation reveals God's natural laws, and the written Word reveals God's moral laws. Each of these reveals some very important things to us about God. We, frail humans of the dust, can never know enough about Him. Our study for today and for the next four weeks can be an exciting and helpful experience.

The discerning reader will note that in Psalm 19, which we are studying today, a definite break occurs between Verses 6 and 7. This has caused some to think that originally this was two short psalms. However, since both of these sections deal with God's revelation of Himself, it appears wise to study both at once.

The occasion of this psalm is unknown. David, the writer, had studied the book of nature and the book of the law; the contemplation of both inspired great praise in his heart. This psalm divides itself quite naturally into three parts: the meaning of the skies, in Verses 1-6; the message of the Scriptures, in Verses 7-11; and, in Verses 12-14, the meditation of the soul.

As we study this psalm, our prayer should be that God will enlighten our minds and hearts to see the things He would reveal about Himself through His creation and His Word.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. While the creation speaks to us generally of God's goodness toward us, it does not tell us of a personal relationship with God. The infinitely personal love revealed by Jesus' atoning death simply could not have been communicated through nature. Also, God's will for our lives could never have been spelled out for us by creation's wonders.

B. Riches do us no good unless we spend them, and the Scriptures cannot benefit us unless we put them to work in our lives. The Word becomes precious to us as we follow the guidelines found therein by faith and see for ourselves how true, how relevant, and how powerful it is in our lives.

C. If we think of the "law" purely in terms of the Mosaic system of regulations and restrictions, we miss the beauty of these psalms. The word is used here to refer to God's instruction, which was intended to give man the fullest, most satisfying, most useful kind of life.

D. We may simply ask, "With adultery, theft, lying, etc. becoming more acceptable, is our society happier, more productive, more at peace?" Few would dare answer in the affirmative. We see instead people bringing ruin upon themselves physically, emotionally, and spiritually by their rebellion against laws and principles that reflect eternal wisdom.

—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The Bible teaches us something about our origin; it answers the question: Where did we come from? The Bible teaches us something about our purpose, answering the question: Why are we here? And the Bible teaches us something about life after death; it answers the question: Where are we going when we leave this world?

B. Creation tells us about the work of God, but it is left for the Word of God to tell us about the way of God. Anyone can see the footprints of God in nature and know that He exists and is a God of great wisdom and power. But how could God reveal His will and way through nature? So God spoke through His Word, to tell us how to be saved and how to find His will for our lives.

C. Why is the word of God so valuable? Why are men willing to give up their lives for it? Because it satisfies man's deepest needs! Man's most important needs are not gold and bread and honey. Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. If man is to know joy, peace, and fulfillment, he must have truth, hope, forgiveness and love. The Word of God supplies these absolutely.

D. God's glory is wondrously revealed in creation. God's law, as direction for life, is also glorious, and in keeping it there is great reward. But all have become guilty, in one way or another, for having broken that perfect law. But then we turn to Christ, for it is in Him that God is finally revealed in His grace to forgive and in His power to save.

—Selected

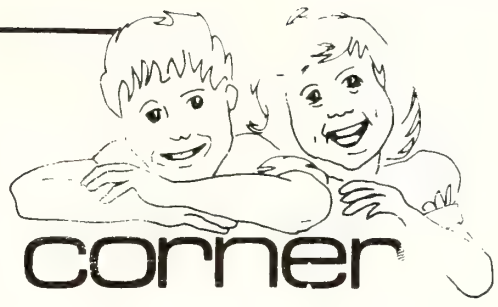
NOTICE

Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church near Crisp, is now holding church services every Sunday morning and Sunday evenings except fifth Sundays. The pastor, the Rev. Rex Edwards, welcomes everyone to attend.

CHURCHES IN THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE

All churches in the Central Conference are requested to call pastors from a list of duly ordained Original Free Will Baptist ministers subject to arroval of the Central Conference Ordaining Council (this list can be obtained from the Yearbook). All ministers wishing to do work in the Central Conference must receive clearance from the Central Conference Ordaining Council before accepting pastorate.

Central Conference Ordaining Council
Rev. Jack Mayo, Secretary



story corner

THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

FOR hundreds of years the Hebrew people had been aves in Egypt. They cried out to God to end a leader who would take them out of avery and back to the land of Canaan, hich God had promised Abraham would e the land of the Hebrews.

God heard the cries of the people and ent Moses to lead them. Moses went to he Egyptian king, who is called haraoh, and asked him to let the ebrews leave Egypt. But Pharaoh would ot free slaves who did so much work for im. Even the plagues which God sent pon the Egyptian people did not per-uade Pharaoh to let them leave. Each me he promised, he would think about and change his mind.

The Egyptian people knew the plagues ere coming because the king held the lebrews, and they, also, begged the ing to send the slaves away.

But Pharaoh was a stubborn man. inally, the terrible plague of death ame. The oldest child of every Egyptian ome died one night. Pharaoh was so ad at the death of his own son that he old the Hebrews to leave.

They were already prepared for travel nd left in the night.

Later, Pharaoh changed his mind gain, but found they had already gone. He called his army together. On the astest horses in Egypt they chased after he thousands of Hebrews who were raveling on foot.

The Egyptians caught up with the Hebrews on the banks of the Red Sea. If hey crossed they would be safely out of Egypt. But there was no way to cross the water.

God caused strong winds to blow on he sea. The water was held back by the winds and the Hebrews walked safely across the sea bed.

The Egyptians chased after them. As soon as they were all in the bed of the sea, the winds stopped and the waters fell back into place.

All of the Egyptians who could not get back in time were drowned. The Hebrews were all safe to go on their way.

Instead of going directly to Canaan, Moses led the people to the south, toward the Mountain of Sinai, where God appeared to him.

They crossed the desert. The water gave out first. The oases were too far apart. But God caused water to flow from huge rocks to keep them from dying of thirst.

Then the food ran out. They had not been able to prepare much to carry with them. They had the gifts of money and jewels given them by the Egyptians, but there was no place in the desert to buy food. They did not want to eat the animals they had brought with them, for they must be saved to start new flocks and herds in Canaan. It seemed they would starve in the desert.

But God again looked after them. Manna fell from heaven each day and thousands of quail flew into camp each night. There were plenty of food.

After many weeks of travel they reached the foot of Mount Sinai. Here they made camp while Moses went back up the mountain to the place where he had first heard God.

God spoke to Moses again: "Tell the Hebrew people that I have chosen them to be a very special nation. If they will obey my commands, I will favor them above all other nations. They have seen my power in Egypt and on the journey through the desert. Remind them of this. Ask if they are willing to promise to obey the laws I will give them."

Moses went back down the mountain and called the leaders of the Hebrews to a meeting.

He told them what God had said to him. He reminded them of the miracles they had seen. He reminded them of how God had cared for them in the desert. He asked if they were willing to promise to obey the laws of God.

They agreed that they would promise to faithfully obey all the laws of God.

Moses went back up the mountain. He told God what the people said.

God told him to go back to the people and prepare them; for He, God, would speak to the people in three days.

For the next three days the people prepared themselves for a visit from God. We do not know all the kings they had to do, but we can imagine some of them. Not only their bodies and clothes must be clean, but also their hearts and minds must be pure. Enemies must become friends; bad thoughts must be put out of their minds.

In addition to cleaning up themselves, they built a rope fence around the foot of the mountain. God would be there and Moses warned the people that no one must touch the mountain or death would follow. The mountain was holy.

The great day came. The whole camp of the Hebrews was humming with excitement, for God would actually speak so that everyone could hear. Only especially chosen people had ever heard the voice of God.

Early that morning those who had been able to sleep were awakened by the loudest thunder they had ever heard. Lightning was flashing all around the mountain. A thick cloud settled over the mountain.

Moses called all the people to come. In their very best clothes they came to stand around the ropes at the foot of the mountain.

The cloud had turned to smoke. It seemed as if the whole mountain was on fire.

A trumpet was heard. It got louder and louder. Then Moses called out, "Lord, are you there?"

A booming voice answered, "I am here. Come up into the mountain, Moses."

The people watched breathlessly as Moses walked into the smoke which billowed up from the mountain. As he disappeared into the smoke, I am certain some felt he would never be seen again.

At the top of the mountain, God told Moses to warn the people again not to come up the mountain. Some people might be so carried away with the idea of

(Continued on Page 14)



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

Some of my most special moments are spent in worshiping God at church. The quiet atmosphere of God's house is one of my closest contacts with God. The feeling of the unexpected, the feeling of the Holy Spirit, the love of Christian brothers and sisters in worship, and the love of a family in worship all make me feel so good to be alive. Each phase of worship is special to me: the singing of the doxology; prayer time, when I can put complete dependency upon God for guidance by the Holy Spirit; each hymn is truly an inspiration by God and a joy to sing forth; the time for tithes and offering (what a privilege to give to God's kingdom); the anthem, presented by some of the most dedicated of God's children (which enhances the sermon and Scripture reading); the divine Spirit shown forth in the reading of the Scripture and sermon by God's chosen shepherd. And most of all, in the stillness of the hour, I love the time when God talks to me during the invitation hymn, urging me to dedicate my life to His service.

Oh, I pray to God that all America would truly learn to worship our living God! "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, Oh Lord, my strength, and my redeemer" (Psalm 19:14).

JG
Raleigh

CRAGMONT REPORT

(Continued from Page 9)

City of Asheville, Returned Check for paid bill	106.28		
N. C. State Auxiliary Convention	4,797.25		
Southern Bell (Rebate)	10.62	4,994.15	
Total Receipts for Three Months			13,081.61
Withdrawal from Savings			1,000.00
Total for Which to Account			$16,581.61

Disbursements

Operational Expenses	$1,161.10	
Burress Insurance Agency	324.25	
McRoy Insurance Agency	205.00	
Sears (Washer and Dryer)	534.20	
Southeastern Sight and Sound Division (Intercom System)	650.03	
Douglas Skinner, Salary	1,800.00	
First Citizens Bank (Transfer to Main Building Fund)	10,183.49	
Total Disbursements		14,858.07
Balance on Hand January 1, 1978		$ 1,723.54

Earmarked Funds

General Fund	$ 1,723.54
Main Building Fund	51,253.21
Total In Bank	$52,976.75

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer
Route 1
Sims, North Carolina 27880

MODERATOR PRAISES ALBEMARLE UNION

The fall of 1934 I came to Ahoskie North Carolina, as a Southern Baptis from Warwick Baptist Church in Chowan county. I transferred my membership to Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church Ahoskie in 1935. The Rev. W. L. Jer nigan was the pastor whom I loved dearly. Soon after that I became moderator of the union meetings. My first observations were a lot of arguments and not enough respect for one another failing to remember sometimes that they were in the Lord's house which was a holy place. My first thought was to try by the grace of God to have that removed, to bring about harmony, to invite the spirit of God, and to welcome the presence of the Lord into our midst. Praise God that very thing became a reality. I served for several years and later resigned. After a few years, I was reelected to the same work. I began working to make it even more spiritual. This has been fulfilled. Our meetings are a blessing to all and they are very spiritual.

I want to thank all the churches for their full cooperation for the past several years for helping to make these services well pleasing and acceptable in God's sight.

May 1978 be even greater and more spiritual. Come to Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church January 28 for a wonderful union meeting.

Charlie Overton
Moderator

Story Corner

(Continued from Page 13)

God so nearby that they would try to get close enough to see Him. This would not be allowed. Moses could not see God through the smoke. No man could ever see God and be allowed to live.

Moses returned to the foot of the mountain, and many of the people were shocked to see him alive. Perhaps some would have dared try to reach God because they saw he was not harmed. But Moses warned them thet they would die as soon as they crossed the ropes.

Now the people were ready for God to speak to them and tell them the laws which would guide their lives.

Next week we shall hear these laws.

—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

Auxiliaries IN Action



ATTENTION CAPE FEAR WOMEN

At our last auxiliary convention, you were asked to make a research and write up a history of your local auxiliary. At present, we probably do not feel that what has been done in the past is important but, when many of our older members are gone, we will be unable to get those precious bits of history with which they can and will gladly share. Time has a way of swiftly passing by. You must remember that the Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary has a great heritage. Let us preserve it for our posterity.

Many of our auxiliaries have elected new officers for the new year. As one would expect, they have no idea what their duties are and in what capacity to serve. If they only knew, they would perform their office well.

May I as president of your Cape Fear Auxiliary Convention suggest that your president appoint a committee to help her work on the history of the local auxiliary and mail it to me as soon as possible. Second, arrange to have a study course on the manual, or in other words, duties of the officers in your local auxiliary very soon. Mrs. Dola Dudley, field secretary, and I will be happy to assist you in any possible way. We shall be looking forward to a response from you. May God bless you.

Mary Lou B. Jackson
President

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

To the Eastern District Youth and Chairman:

It is only about two and one-half months until our spring convention. Plans for the Bible Bowl Quiz, Declamations, and Essays should be well under way. Let me know as soon as possible, if you plan to participate in these contests. This will enable your executive committee to plan the program. Be sure to send me a copy of your declamation or essay by March!

Report blanks will go out to each auxiliary president or a youth sponsor of your church. Please be on the lookout for yours.

If you have a good youth group or singers that would like to perform at the conventions, let me know.

How I wish I could go to visit each of you, but that is impossible. Therefore, I am extending a special invitation for each of you to visit me at our March 18 spring convention. The place will be announced later.

Please pray about our convention. Let's make this the greatest yet! Won't you help? May God bless each of you.

Eastern District
Youth Chairman
Margaret Ard

ATTENTION AUXILIARY MEMBERS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT

Happy New Year to each of you! Remember in our last convention we voted to have a study course on the book, "What Happens When Women Pray," to be held at the Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, Saturday, January 28, at 10 a. m. The time for this study is almost here, so make plans to attend.

There will be 4 different speakers to give the study. They are Mrs. Melvin Everington of Core Creek church, Mrs. J. B. Starnes of Holly Springs church, Mrs. Sarah Styron of Davis church, and Mrs. Nina Grace Register of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston.

We are looking forward to a good representation from each church. Bring a sandwich; we will serve tea, coffee, and cake. I am sure we will be blessed by taking part in this study course.

The directions to the church are as follows: All that are traveling on Highway 70 from Kinston as you get to Cove City at the caution sign turn right go about ½ mile on the right is the church. If you are traveling from New Bern on Highway 70 as you get in Cove City at the caution sign turn left and go about ½ mile on the right is the church. Those traveling by Trenton road to Cove City, the church is on the left just before getting to Cove City.

The auxiliaries which attend the study course will be able to count it for one of the required studies. Pray that we will have a good day in the Lord.

Study Course Chairman
Eastern District
Mrs. Woodrow McCoy

IF I CAN MAKE SOMEBODY HAPPY

If I can make somebody happy,
While in this world I must abide.
If I can shore another's load
Then I will be more satisfied.

If I own no earthly treasures,
Or no wealth to give away,
I'd like to make somebody happy
When secretly to God I pray.

Oh let me help someone that's lonely,
Someone that's sad for love they've lost.
Oh, God, do make me ever worthy
Regardless of the price or cost.

Show me, my God, what I can do
Give me the cheering words to speak
That I may share another's load
And help them bear their grief.

Help them to know I am concerned
And for their grief do care.
By praying, I can share their load.
It will not be as hard to bear.

Help them to feel, when I am praying
That happy soon their lives will be.
If they'll just put their trust in Jesus.
He'll lead them on to victory.

If I can make somebody happy,
To them the words I may not say.
But help me share their heavy load
When secretly, to God I pray.

—Maud R. Dean

WATCH

A CELEBRATION OF 250 YEARS



LEADERS WITH GOVERNOR

Some of the denominational leaders who met with Governor James B. Hunt Jr. prior to his address at the 250th Anniversary Service were: L-R, Front Row, C. L. Patrick, Free Union, Walstonburg; S. A. Smith, Lanier's Chapel, Beulaville; N. B. Barrow, Sarecta and Rose of Sharon; and James Evans, Davis. Back Row, L-R, Willis Wilson, Reedy Branch, Winterville; L. B. Manning, Peace church, Fountain; Robert May, Hickory Chapel, Ahoskie; and State Convention President; Governor Hunt; Stewart Humphrey, Children's Home; Gary Bailey, Elm Grove, Ayden; and Joe Ingram, Foreign Missions Director.

A TELEVISION SPECIAL

Sunday, January 22, 1978

Channel 7—12:30—1:30 P. M.

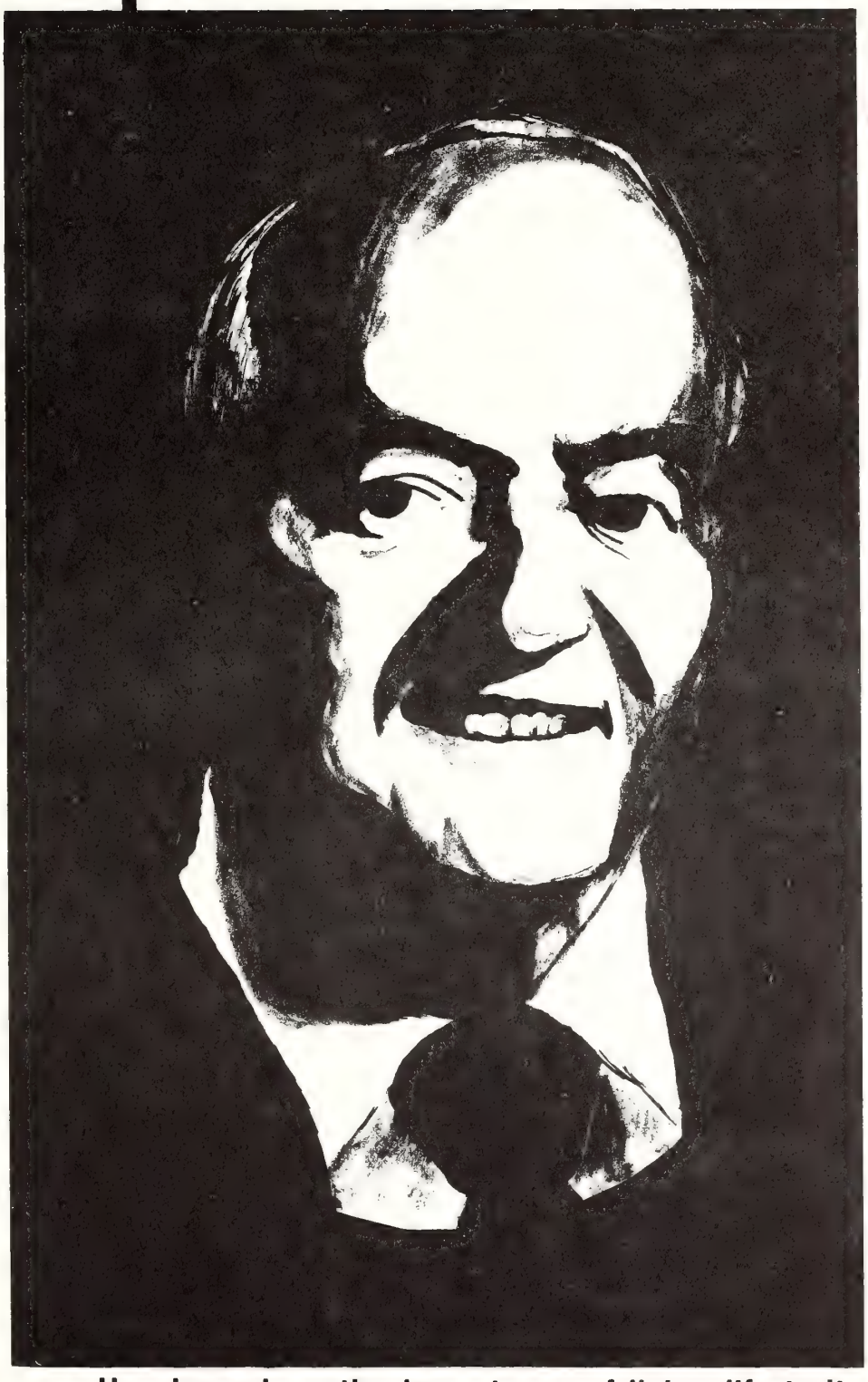
This special one-hour television presentation of the service held on November 22, 1977, commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Fuunding of the First Free Will Baptist Church in North Carolina.

The television special will also highlight the activities of our major denominational enterprises.

You are encouraged to watch this historic presentation.

the free will baptist

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



He showed us the importance of living life to its fullest and packing into every moment all the happiness available.

Editorial . . .

Cover design by Ronnie Harrison

BY SHOWING US HOW TO LIVE, "HE TAUGHT US HOW TO DIE"

It is doubtful that anyone ever showed more courage in the face of death than did Senator Hubert Horatio Humphrey. The brave man, described by President Carter as "the most beloved of all Americans," succumbed to cancer Friday night, January 13. His valiant fight to the finish was representative of him, the man, his attitude toward living, and his desire to carry every task to completion.

It was interesting to note that Senator Humphrey never lost "the common touch," as Rudyard Kipling termed it in his poem, "If." One of the Senator's acquaintances, when asked if he called Humphrey "The Happy Warrior" (a title that became synonymous with his enthusiastic personality) stated simply, but respectfully: "No, I called him 'Hubert'; he was my friend." Thus, it was typical of Hubert Humphrey to be a friend of the poor and disadvantaged, while rubbing elbows with the rich.

Called the champion of *liberalism*, the man subscribed to a *conservative* religion. He did not come on strong as a moralist, though he was indeed an outspoken advocate of what he thought to be *right*. His religion, though quieter in tone than his politics, was apparently just as dear.

A man not easily dissuaded, he influenced many by his demonstrative manner: He never allowed defeat to get the better of him. He snapped back time and time again, his optimism always abounding.

His quips will become favorite quotes. For example, one of his last snaps, "I don't intend to resign anything. In fact, I may just join something," will offer encouragement to those who feel dejected because of the recurrent difficulties of life.

We can thank him for teaching us how to face problems—especially those associated with sickness. Even with the knowledge of imminent death, he smiled and displayed his joy of living. Few have ever shown such a passion for life.

Humphrey wanted no sorrow displayed at his passing; but in understandable contravention, thousands mourned his death. He requested that the memorial service be "a celebration of life"—and indeed it was. But it would have been too perfect had not a single tear been shed.

Who among us was not stirred by the resounding "America, the Beautiful," "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," and the "Hallelujah Chorus"? Who was not moved by the spontaneous rendition of "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" and the crowds that gathered to pay homage to their friend?

Even those who did not particularly like Hubert Humphrey would not deny that they admired him. He was described by people from all walks of life as "a whole lot of man—a big person." He never claimed to be blameless; neither did he ascribe to himself undeserved attributes. He was part of the integrity of America, reputed to be a man who was as decent as he was brave.

His was truly the spirit of Americanism. He was a patriot of patriots; and while choosing no minor part, he never exploited anyone for his own gain. No one ever accused him of stepping on another to elevate himself. Perhaps he assessed for himself, thusly, the honor which history will accord him.

It was said of Hubert Humphrey that if anyone ever loved his country, he did. It would seem, too, that he loved His Lord as well (though he was never seen to put his faith on the soapbox). It is fitting that he be remembered—not so much for his contributions to the American way (which were many), but rather for his contributions to *life*. He showed us during the last six months what living is all about: the importance of living life to its fullest and packing into every moment all the happiness available.

"So let us long take joy in its full measure,
and realize the wonder of wonders we know.
Let us derive from this life
seeds of kindness and pleasure,
knowing our dear God
willed it so. . . ."

—Manning

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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January 25, 1978

Dear Christian friend:

Best wishes to you during these first few weeks of 1978.

Many of us traditionally make and sometimes keep New Year's Resolutions. Permit us to share with you our resolution and 'high calling' . . . we hope that it will be your resolution too.

'. . . but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 3:13, 14).

Let all Christians unite together as we press toward the mark—ever determined to spread God's love through the ministry of our churches and denominational enterprises.

As you know, February has been designated as Education Month by the State Convention. It is a special month with what we pray will become a very special day. We are asking that your church designate Sunday, February 26, as 'Student Sunday'. On this very special day we ask that you join with us in a very special way.

(1) **Special Representatives**—During February we hope that you will invite someone from the College for a Sunday morning or evening service. The representative can teach the Sunday school lesson, hold the worship service, show slides on the College or whatever you feel appropriate.

(2) **Special Bulletins**—A special bulletin has been prepared for distribution and use by as many of our churches as possible on 'Student Sunday'. Please use the form contained in this report to let us know the number of bulletins you will need.

(3) **Special Gifts For Scholarships**—We urge you to have a special offering on 'Student Sunday' to help us—help our Free Will Baptist students. **This is not just another request.** Our enrollment was up fifteen percent last fall and the requests for financial aid are greater than ever before.

(4) **Most Importantly**—let us pray together. We are asking our over 3,000 'Prayer Partners' and other friends to join us in united prayer at 11:30 a. m. on Sunday, February 26, 'Student Sunday'. We ask that your prayers be. . .

. . . for Mount Olive College to grow ever stronger as a part of God's ministry on this earth.

. . . for hearts to be touched and gifts to be made that College Hall and our other proposed buildings in the twenty-fifth anniversary program might become a reality.

. . . for all our churches and denominational enterprises so that we press toward the high calling.

'Student Sunday' can be the beginning of even greater things for Mount Olive College. Prayer is the answer. God is the source and **you** are the key.

Throughout the month of February and particularly on the 26th let us unite our hearts and minds as we ask God for **his** richest blessings upon our **College**—Mount Olive College.

With **His** love,

Respectfully yours,

J. Harold Herring Jr.
Director of Development



SUNDAY, JANUARY 29
Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 1:15

"BE SURE YOUR SINS
WILL FIND YOU OUT"

Three men in South Boston posed for a passing photographer. They then refused to pay for the picture, beat the itinerant artist, and tried to smash his camera. Then they ran away, chuckling over their exploit, and ridiculing the plight of their victim. But the photographer had one resource which the three rascals had forgotten—the undeveloped plate in his camera. This he developed and turned over to the police. By means of that telltale bit of paper, the three men were recognized immediately and arrested under a charge of assault and battery, and were soon secure in the grasp of the law. Sin manufactures its own condemnation. For witness against it, the Judge of all the earth does not need any outside testimony.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Remember there is an Almighty God. It is He who watches you and all the little things you do. Don't forget to think before you do evil things or have evil thoughts!

MONDAY, JANUARY 30
Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 10:12

OCCUPIED FOR OR WITH
JESUS?

Martha in the kitchen, serving with her hands;
Occupied for Jesus, with her pots and pans,
Loving Him, yet fevered, burdened to the brim—
Careful, troubled Martha, occupied for Him.

Mary on the footstool, eyes upon her Lord;
Occupied with Jesus, drinking in His Word.
This the one thing needful, all else strangely dim:
Loving, resting Mary, occupied with Him.

So may we like Mary, choose the better part.
Resting in His presence—hands and feet and heart;
Drinking in His wisdom, strengthened with His grace;
Waiting for the summons, eyes upon His face.

PRAYER THOUGHT

When Jesus comes, will you be ready in spirit, willingness, and nerves? Will you be ready to serve Him with all your heart? Are you willing to work for Him each day?

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31
Scripture Reading—Titus 2:11

WHEN YOU GET THE
"DIVERS"

A colored preacher reading his Bible got very much concerned about the interpretation of these words. He decided to preach a sermon on "Divers Diseases." Following is an excerpt from the sermon: "If you gets pneumonia, the doctors can cure it. If you gets tuberculosis, they seldom cures you, but when you gets the 'divers' nobody but the good Lord can heal you." We smile at the old Negro's mistakes, but perhaps he preached well after all, for there are many diseases of the soul that only Christ can heal.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Only God can heal the sin sickness of the soul, if you will only believe and trust Him. You must put your faith in Him.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Scripture Reading—Romans 10:10

A QUEEN'S FAITH

John Townsend wrote a letter to Queen Victoria, urging her to read John 3:16; and Romans 10:9, 10, so that she might know that the eternal life promised in the Bible is sure both for the present and the future. About two weeks later Mr. Townsend received the following reply:

"Your letter of recent date received, and in reply I would state that I have carefully and prayerfully read and portions of Scripture referred to. I believe in the finished work of Christ for me, and trust by God's grace to meet you in that Home of which He said, 'I go to prepare a place for you.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you trust and believe that God has gone to prepare you a place with Him someday? Are you looking forward to that day?

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2
Scripture Reading—Proverbs 13:8

"HE SAVED HIS LIFE
BUT LOST IT"

Two brothers, both well established on their own farms, investigated the possibility of giving their lives for missionary service. One felt he should give up his opportunities for material gain, finish his missionary preparation, and move with his family to the field of South America. They are there today, investing their lives for Jesus Christ. The other brother felt that his material opportunities were too good to sacrifice for Christ, and the hazards of the mission field were too great. He returned to his farm, and a year or two later died accidently in a fire on the farm. He saved his life and lost it. He clung to his material wealth—but of what profit was it?

PRAYER THOUGHT

What does it profit to a man if he gain the whole world and loose his soul? Riches will get a person nowhere.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3
Scripture Reading—Hebrews 1:14

NOT SAFE TO WAIT

A woman came to Dr. Chalmers one day and said: "Dr. Chalmers, I cannot get my child to come to her Saviour. I've talked and talked to her, but it's no use." The doctor thought to himself that she must be lacking in wisdom, and said, "Let me talk with your daughter by myself, and we will see what may be done." One day he met the daughter and engaged her in conversation. "You have been bothered a good deal about the matter of your soul's salvation, haven't you? Suppose I say to your mother that you don't want to be talked to about the matter for a whole year, how will that do?" The Scottish lassie hesitated a little and then replied: "Well, I don't think it would be safe to put off the matter for a whole year. Something might happen! I might die before then." "Yes, that's so," replied the

doctor. "Suppose we say six months." The daughter didn't think that even that would be safe. "Well, then, how about three months?" After a brief hesitation the daughter replied, "I don't think it is safe to put it off at all." They knelt together and in a few moments the daughter was radiantly saved.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Never put off salvation of your life from day to day, because you never know when it is your turn to die.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4
Scripture Reading—Genesis 3:8

ALONE—BUT NOT ALONE

Even at a very early age we can learn of the fatherly love and care of God and trust ourselves to Him. A little girl named Gloria had a nurse who foolishly gave the child a fear of being in the dark alone. When her mother learned of the child's fear, she set about curing it by telling her that God was another Father as loving as her own daddy, but much wiser and much more powerful. He would care for her wherever she was, in the dark as well as in the light. One evening Mother sent Gloria on a little errand to a sewing room off the hall. It was getting dark and the room was not lighted. " 'Fraid; dark, Mummy; 'fraid," said Gloria. "No, dear," said Mother, "it is not very dark in there, and you know God is in the dark as well as in the light." Thus encouraged, Gloria slowly took two steps toward the room and then stopped. For a moment there was a battle inside her heart, and then, in victorious faith, she cried out, "Dod, O Dod, I'm a-tomin'!" and she paddled boldly on right into the dark room, alone—yet not alone. Being sure her strong and loving Heavenly Father would be wherever she had to go, gave her victory over fear. And the same certainty is ever the secret of mastering out fears, whether we be children, youths, or grown men and women.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God will take care of you no matter what kind of fear that you may have whether it be if you are afraid of the dark or just being alone.

Devotions used by permissions, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations,* Eerdmans Press.

DEDICATION SERVICE HELD AT CALVARY CHURCH

Dedication services were held on December 18 for the new sanctuary of Wilson's Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, corner of Deans and Woodard Streets. The new facility can seat up to 350 persons and was built and furnished for an estimated $125,000. It features padded pews, carpeting, central heating and air conditiong, an adjoining fellowship hall and a baptistry, while the former church sanctuary will now be used as a Sunday school. The congregation assemblied for the ribbon cutting. There was also purchased a new piano and organ for the new building. During the dedication there was a prayer of thanksgiving. Morning worship service followed during which various organizations and persons were recognized. The pastor conducted a very inspiring dedication service using the building and planning committee and the trustees.



Pictured in the photo above are left to right, Daylon Skinner and Charles Vinson, church trustees; Mrs. Freddie Vinson, Mrs. Jean Langley, Mrs. Nora Parker, Mrs. Geraldine Bailey, Hugh Harrell and Mrs. Vivian Harrell, original members of the Mary Hall Mission, which founded the Calvary church in 1954; Harvey Pittman Jr., another church trustee; and the Rev. Dewey Boling, pastor of the church.

The program was as follows:

"We dedicate this santuary to love and understanding. May its joys and sorrows be shared and the individuality of each member appreciated. (We light a candle to brotherly love.)

"We dedicate this sanctuary to service and pleasure. May it have gaity and high fellowship, with kindness in its voices and laughter ringing within its walls. (We light a candle to happiness.)

"We dedicate this santuary to friendliness. May its doors open in hospitality and its windows look out with kindness toward all mankind. (We light a candle to friendship.)

"We dedicate this santuary to cooperation. May its duties be performed in love, its furnishings bear witness that the work of others ministers to our needs and comfort, and may we be reminded that God works with us to supply our spiritual and physical needs. (We light a candle to cooperation.)

"We dedicate this santuary to the appreciation of all things good and true. May the word of God bring wisdom, the pictures symbolize things beautiful, and the music bring joy and inspiration. (We light a candle to appreciation.)

"We dedicate the time and talents of those who will worship here to serve our generation and help build a world in which every family may have a place of worship and fellowship. (We light a candle to Christian service.)

"We dedicate this sanctuary as a unit in the church universal, an instrument of the Kingdom of God, a place for worship and Christian training and a threshold to life eternal. (We light a candle to spiritual enrichment.)"

A Prayer of Dedication

"Lord, bless this dwelling, not for any richness of material nor beauty of design; not for grace of furnishings; nor loveliness of site; for all these we thank Thee. But especially bless this dwelling because here is where You said You would meet Your people to own and bless. Bless all of us with grace and wisdom to make the right decisions about all things. Bless the present pastor and all who may follow him with the Divine leadership of the Holy Spirit so as to be able to lead them into life everlasting. May the dwelling be a place of refuge for hard pressed spirit and pain filled bodies who can go out refreshed to fresh achievement for our Lord Jesus Christ. Let our doors be wide enough to welcome all friendly spirits, the ministry of this dwelling have spiritual food for hungry souls, encouragement for weary pilgrims, and a friendly reception for all who would come our way. Here, let all gossip cease, all unworthy blame be left unspoken, here gaity and seriousness alternate to meet the total needs of life. Here let steadiness replace nervous haste, a sense of mission relieve nagging lust for power. Here let the old, quaint, true, everlasting gospel embrace all of us in undying bonds of Love, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen."

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Please explain "The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be" (Genesis 49:10).

Answer: This is a messianic prophecy indicating that Jesus Christ should come before the complete destruction of Israel and the temple. The Bible has preserved for us a rich heritage in prophecies and the account of their fulfillment on this all important subject.

Compare the following with this Scripture found in the question. "I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth" (Numbers 24:17); "For Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him came the chief ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's" (1 Chronicles 5:2); "Gilead is mine, and Manesseh is mine; Ephraim also is the strength of mine head; Judah is my lawgiver" (Psalm 60:7); "And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath preailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof" (Revelation 5:5); "But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar" (John 19:15); "Then said Pilate unto them, Take ye him, and judge him according to your law. The Jews therefore said unto him, It is not lawful for us to put any man to death" (John 18:31).

"Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times" (Daniel 9:25); "Behold, the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold his reward is with him, and his work before him" (Isaiah 62:11); "And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts" (Haggai 2:7); "Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles" (Isaiah 42:1); "And the multitudes that went before, and that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest" (Matthew 21:9); "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots" (Isaiah 11:1).

"The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken" (Deuteronomy 18:15); "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:32, 33); "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved" (John 3:17); "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. . . . And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side, Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee" (Isaiah 60:1, 3-5); "Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people. Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee" (Isaiah 55:4, 5).

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it" (Isaiah 2:2); "For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel" (Luke 2:30-32); "And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad" (John 11:52); "And, I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" (John 12:32); "And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth. Thus saith the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the LORD that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee" (Isaiah 49:6, 7); "And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious" (Isaiah 11:10).

"And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust" (Romans 15:12); "He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law" (Isaiah 42:4); "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15).

George H. Sandison has this to say in answering a similar question in **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered** as follows:

"The passage in Genesis 49:10 is one which has ever been regarded by Christians and by the Jews themselves as indicating the Messiah. In ancient Egyptian monuments of important personages the position of the secretary or scribe who records the prince's or ruler's decrees or laws is a kneeling one, almost literally 'between his feet.' The

Targum renders the passage thus: 'One having the principality shall not be taken from the house of Judah, nor a scribe from his children's children, until the Messiah come whose the kingdom is.' Still another version from the same source is: 'Kings shall not fail from the house of Judah, nor skillful doctors of the law from his children's children, until the time when the King's Messiah shall come.' The allusion of Judah is interpreted to refer to the primacy of that tribe in war, which was to continue until the promised land was conquered and the ark of the covenant deposited at Shiloh. Some of the ablest expositors point out that the descent of our Lord from Judah is not conveyed in the words 'from between his feet,' hence the question of lineage is not involved.''

Dr. James M. Gray summarizes some facts concerning Messianic truths found in the Bible as follows on Page 25 in his book **Synthetic Bible Studies**:

''Observe in this connection the development of Messianic truth. At first He is the seed of the woman simply, rather indefinite and undetermined; in the second place, the range is narrowed to a particular race of the woman, the line of Abraham; and in the third place, the line is drawn still closer to include only the tribe of Judah. Thus will it be found as we proceed, that the features of the Saviour's personallity become more and more clearly indicated and defined by the various prophets, not only stimulating expectation with every generation, but increasing the means by which He may be identified when He comes.''

If one is interested enough he may go through the Bible and read it with the thought in mind of selecting and putting in orderly, arranging all the Messianic references. He would not only find the studying interesting, but profitable and enlightening

W. E. Blackstone published a little book **Jesus is Coming** in 1908 that is out of print, but still available in some used bookstores that I find helpful.

Churches and Ministers Available

God's spirit is still strong in the hearts of His willing workers. He has called two men from among the body of the Eastwood Free Will Baptist Church in Fayetteville to join the ministry. John Adcox and Carl Mees have been examined by the ordaining council and licenses have been presented by the Rev. W. O. Lassiter, pastor, during a recent service.

John Adcox has been with the Eastwood church since it was established 14 years ago. He has been a deacon for many years and has had an active part on the leadership of the church. He has also been very active in the music department. Carl Mees is active, working with the youth and musical program.

Both are available for supply work and may be contacted by phoning 488-8942, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

CHURCH-COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT COUNCIL

The Church-College Advancement Council was formed in 1974 to faciliate communication and services between the church and Mount Olive College. As the College begins its twenty-fifth anniversary program the council will become increasingly important.

Each church which supports the College is invited to designate a lay member to the council. The term of office will be three years.

The council will hold three regional meetings during February. At these meetings the College will share the architectual renderings from the proposed new buildings, review the plans for the 25th anniversary program, and answer any questions. Please note the date and place of the county meeting. The program will begin at 10 a. m. and will not last longer than an hour and a half.

February 4, Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown: Hertford, Pasquotank, Washington, Pitt, Martin, Tyrrell, and Beaufort. February 11, Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly: Wayne, Nash, Cumberland, Edgecombe, Johnston, Sampson, Halifax, Wilson, Wake, Greene, and Harnett. February 18, Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern: Craven, Carteret, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Duplin, Jones, and New Hanover.

If a church has not yet selected a lay person to represent it on the council, please do so prior to these important regional meetings. The council hopes that all of our ministers will be able to attend the meetings along with their council members.

MY VACATION IN HEAVEN

by Sallie Ingalls Carraway
Greenville, North Carolina

I am going to spend my vacation in Heaven
On the banks of that beautiful sea;
And I do so want all of my loved ones
To prepare to spend their vacation with me.

There we can sing the songs of old to the Lamb,
And the Lord's love will overflow;
Through our hearts this I know,
For then we will be free,
So come and spend your vacation with me.

I am longing there to be,
For I love Him and He loves me.
And from my sins I've been set free;
And I long for you to be
On your vacation with me.

I have worked and I have prayed
And drawn nearer to Jesus every day.
Now I know He's my friend
And on Him I can depend.
From my sins I've been set free
And I long for you to be
On your vacation with me.

No more tears to dim our eyes
As we rest on the banks of the crystal sea;
Up in Heaven beyond the skies
I'll be waiting for you to join me
On your vacation which soon will be.

NOTE OF THANKS

I wish to thank my many Free Will Baptist friends for their many cards, calls, and prayers during my wife's recent illness. Words will never be able to express what your concern has meant to both of us.

My special thanks to each minister who took time out of his busy schedule to stop by her hospital room to visit and pray for her. God bless you for your kindness.

Yours in Christ,
Royce L. Reynolds

A Christian Home for Boys and Girls

free will baptist children's home

MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA

J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
October, November, December

TOTAL: $89,572.69

Albemarle Conference

Church	Total
Belhaven	$ 81.00
Free Union	70.00
Gum Neck	113.00
Hickory Chapel	770.14
Malachi's Chapel	260.00
Mount Tabor	433.57
Mount Zion	158.00
Union Meeting	23.23
Sunday School Convention	40.55
Auxiliary Convention	10.00
5th Sunday Sing	100.00
Piney Grove	100.00
Plymouth, First	320.00
Sidney	278.69
Sound Side	165.00
Saint Paul	230.00
Trinity	187.00
Union Chapel	385.10
TOTAL	$ 3,725.28

Blue Ridge Conference

Church	Total
Cedar Hill	$ 50.00

Cape Fear Conference

Church	Total
Bethel	$ 180.00
Casey's Chapel	266.86
Goldsboro	608.90
Hopewell	721.48
Johnston Union	601.96
Lanwood Chapel	63.00
Mount Olive	10.00
Auxiliary Convention	31.45
Oak Grove	380.00
Palmer Memorial	494.04
Pleasant Grove	250.00
Powhatan	25.00
Riverside	328.75
Robert's Grove	25.00
Saint Mary's Grove	100.00
Shady Grove	1,035.00
Smithfield, First	525.00
Smyrna	315.00
Saint Paul	100.00
Tee's Chapel	270.00
Victory Mission	68.77
West Clinton	100.00
Wooten's Chapel	36.75
Yelverton's Grove	100.00
TOTAL	$ 6,636.96

Central Conference

Church	Total
Aspen Grove	$ 993.81
Ayden	458.00
Bethany	134.23
Black Jack	1,830.58
Cedar Grove	75.00
Community	370.46
Daniels Chapel	329.00
Dawson's Grove	20.00
Dilda's Grove	260.91
Edgewood	443.33
Elm Grove	2,032.45
Free Union	675.75
Friendship	748.31
Greenville, First	346.00
Grimsley	433.00
Gum Swamp	1,550.00
Harrell's Chapel	45.00
Hickory Grove	650.70
Howell Swamp	470.00
Hugo	529.10
Hull Road	152.55
King's Cross Roads	2,498.25
LaGrange	370.00
Little Creek	205.00
Marlboro	110.00
Second Union	13.39
Auxiliary Convention	39.10
Layman's League	100.00
Fourth Union	45.75
Saints Delight	105.00
Ormondsville	977.20
Otter's Creek	505.85
Owen's Chapel	747.72
Peace	313.50
Piney Grove (Pitt)	165.00
Pleasant Hill	25.00
Reedy Branch	607.52
Roanoke Rapids Mission	30.00
Rocky Mount	204.00
Rose Hill	549.99
Rose of Sharon	481.00
Saratoga	240.00
Spring Branch	816.00
Sweet Gum Grove	475.00
Tarboro	890.00
Walnut Creek	200.00
Watery Branch	15.00
Williamston	120.00
Winterville	726.11
TOTAL	$24,123.56

Eastern Conference

Church	Total
Antioch	$ 350.00
Arapahoe	300.00
Bethel	154.00
Bethlehem	220.00
Beulaville	301.15
Bridgeton	216.50
British Chapel	139.65
Cabin	350.55
Christian Chapel	455.00
Core Creek	349.72
Core Point	64.00
Crab Point	67.00
Croatan	100.00
Davis	77.00
Deep Run	601.15
Dublin Grove	401.22
Edward's Chapel	45.00
Ephesus	215.37
Faith	6.00
Folkstone	140.00
Friendship	241.19
Gethesemane	240.00
Grant's Chapel	125.00
Gray Branch	215.00
Hillsberry	30.00
Holly Springs	2,422.50
Indian Springs	115.00
Juniper Chapel	280.31
Kinston, First	675.50
Lanier's Chapel	269.10
Long Ridge	71.15
Macedonia	400.00
May's Chapel	160.00
Memorial	277.92
Mosley's Creek	95.00
Mount Olive	25.00
Mount Pleasant	156.00
Mount Zion (Onslow)	226.66
Mount Zion (Pamlico)	384.00
Fifth Union	75.00
Miscellaneous	10.00
Third Union	41.00

Fifth Union	60.00
Auxiliary District	125.00
New Bethlehem	106.50
New Haven	217.82
Northeast	138.71
Oak Grove	175.00
Oriental	12.00
Otway	135.00
Pearsall's Chapel	325.91
Pilgrim's Home	360.00
Pilgrim's Rest	100.00
Piney Grove	292.91
Reunion Chapel	115.00
Rock of Zion	177.52
Rooty Branch	130.00
Russell's Creek	5.00
Saints Delight	343.00
Sandy Plain	689.44
Sarecta	200.00
Smith's New Home	417.40
Smyrna	325.00
Snead's Ferry	100.00
Snow Hill	440.10
Sound View	35.00
Spring Hope	220.00
Saint Mary's	571.50
Trent	90.34
Vanceboro	22.82
Verona	78.81
Warden's Grove	245.00
Warsaw	50.00
Welcome Home	207.00
Whaley's Chapel	191.24
White Hill	50.00
White Oak Grove	650.00
Wilmington, First	50.00
White Oak	50.00
Wintergreen	30.00
Woodington	250.00
Woodrow, First	194.38
TOTAL	$27,851.04

Pee Dee Conference

Church	Total
Beaverdam	$ 125.00
Cypress Creek	73.00
Emerson	10.25
Little Bethel	40.00
Mount Olive	15.00
Auxiliary Convention	93.15
Miscellaneous	264.39
Oak Grove	170.00
Pine Level	36.00
Pireway	47.00
White Oak	365.60
TOTAL	$ 1,239.39

Piedmont

Church	Total
Baptist Road Cathedral	$ 250.00
Bethany	15.47
Community	151.16
East Rockingham	77.00
Heritage Mission	100.00
Highland Pines	151.00
High Point	126.67
House of Prayer	150.00
Mount Olive	133.00
First Union	74.81
Union Gospel	125.00
TOTAL	$ 1,354.11

Rockfish Conference

Church	Total
Mount Moriah	$ 137.25
Conference	26.56
Sandy Grove	200.00
TOTAL	$ 363.81

Toe River Conference

Church	Total
Roan's Chapel	$ 362.97
Roaring Creek	93.91
TOTAL	$ 456.88

Western Conference

Church	Total
Barnes Hill	$ 1,121.21
Black Jack Grove	20.00
Branch Chapel	1,372.17
Calvary	158.63
Elwood Lane	159.58
Everett's Chapel	731.34
Fellowship	251.43
Flood's Chapel	110.36
First, Durham	100.00
Free Union	144.30
Fremont	152.50
Friendship	433.00
Heaven Bound	1,780.07
Holly Springs	775.00
Kenly	419.00
Little Rock	982.63
Marsh Swamp	1,095.88
Memorial Chapel	176.57
Micro	195.00
Milbournie	337.50
Mount Zion (Nash)	201.61
Mount Zion (Wilson)	50.36
Youth Fellowship	75.00
Second Union	75.00
First Union	100.00
Auxiliary Convention	47.00
New Sandy Hill	199.32
Oak Grove	295.00
People's Chapel	619.00
Piney Grove	1,491.15
Pine Level	656.80
Pleasant Grove	1,345.00
Pleasant Hill	331.32
Pleasant Plain	434.58
Rains Cross Roads	383.00
Rock Springs	191.02
Rosebud	301.69
Selma	50.00
Sherron Acres	560.00
Spring Hill	300.00
Stancill's Chapel	186.08
Saint Mary's	746.26
Stoney Creek	2,575.00
Stony Hill	1.80
Trinity	476.01
Union Chapel	203.21
Union Grove	323.50
Unity (Durham)	51.50
Unity (Wilson)	25.00
Watson's Grove	50.00
Wilson, First	1,451.53
TOTAL	$23,312.91

Statewide Bodies

Auxiliary Convention	$ 240.59

Other States

Bim, West Virginia	$ 180.00
Cazy, West Virginia	165.00
Boone County League, West Virginia	50.00
Shelby, Ohio	63.50
TOTAL	$ 458.50

SPECIAL PROJECTS—SPECIAL GIFTS

As a new year dawns and new challenges face us, you can be sure that new expenses will come to all of us. Some of our friends have found unique ways to make extra special contributions to the Children's Home.

The C. J. Wade family of the Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church at Ayden sponsors a dinner every year in November at which they ask their friends and fellow church members to give contributions to the Home. For six years the Wade family and friends have given over $1,000 yearly to the Home.

The Slaughter family and members of the Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church of Newport sponsor a Community Barbecue Supper which this year alone yielded over $2,000. This combined effort by the Slaughter family and the Holly Springs church is a significant part of our yearly receipts.

In the case of both of these churches and families, we are reminded of the few loaves and fishes that became so many in the hands of our Lord. Here we see two families combine a desire to help the Children's Home and their talents turn into blessings from our Heavenly Father.

What about your church, your family, your auxiliary, your youth; is there not

(Continued on Page 15)

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"



mission work...

at home and abroad.

Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
Director—Treasurer
P. O. Box 979
Goldsboro, N. C. 27530

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
Fayetteville, N. C. 28305

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HOME MISSIONS QUARTERLY REPORT FROM October 1, 1977 thru December 31, 1977

Albemarle

District Auxiliary Convention	$ 20.00
Union Meeting	9.00
District Sunday School Convention	4.00
Free Union	20.00
Hickory Chapel	102.85
Mount Zion	50.00
Plymouth, First	50.00
Sidney	316.70
Union Chapel	25.00
TOTAL	$ 597.55

Cape Fear

Youth Fellowship	$ 755.00
Casey's Chapel	10.00
Eastwood	30.00
Goldsboro, First	110.00
Hopewell	78.71
Johnston Union	75.00
Lee's Chapel	41.00
Oak Grove	10.00
Pleasant Grove	200.00
Powhatan	15.00
Riverside	200.00
Shady Grove	32.70
Smyrna	50.00
Smithfield, First	85.00
Tee's Chapel	20.00
Victory Mission	198.02
Wootens Chapel	110.25
TOTAL	$ 2,020.68

Central

Ayden	$ 20.00
Bethany	83.93
Black Jack	287.48
Community	60.00
Daniels Chapel	316.00
Dawson's Grove	22.00
Edgewood	77.50
Elm Grove	175.00
Free Union (Greene County)	39.09
Friendship (Greene County)	237.17
Greenville, First	238.40
Grimsley	10.00
Gum Swamp	250.00
Harrell's Chapel	235.00
Hickory Grove	15.67
Howell Swamp (Greene County)	10.00
Hugo	130.00
Hull Road	264.00
King's Cross Roads	55.93
LaGrange	16.00
Little Creek (Greene County)	11.50
Marlboro (Pitt County)	10.00
Ormondsville	40.00
Otters Creek	81.28
Owen's Chapel	160.00
Palmer Memorial	121.89
Peace	128.75
Reedy Branch	183.76
Rocky Mount, First	131.00
Rose of Sharon	10.00
Rose Hill	130.00
Saratoga	110.00
Spring Branch (Greene County)	10.00
Tarboro, First	510.00
Watery Branch	15.00
Winterville	250.21
Williamston, First	20.00
TOTAL	$ 4,466.56

Eastern

Beulaville	$ 1.00
Bridgeton	142.00
Christian Chapel	15.00
Core Creek	50.00
Crab Point	84.50
Davis	14.03
Dublin Grove	10.00
Faith	104.00
Fifth Easter Sunday School Convention	10.00
Fifth Union Meeting	5.00
Folkstone	90.00
Friendship (Jones County)	11.72
Gethsemane	50.00
Grants Chapel	50.00
Holly Springs	974.85
Juniper Chapel	20.00
Kinston, First	35.00
Mount Zion	5.00
Northeast	2.50
Oak Grove	15.50
Pearsall Chapel	51.00
Pilgrims Home, Kinston	100.00
Pilgrims Rest	28.03
Saints Delight	115.50
Saint Mary's	201.00
Sandy Plain	539.44
Third Eastern Union	15.00
Welcome Home	25.00
White Oak Grove	10.00
Wintergreen	15.00
TOTAL	$ 2,790.07

Pee Dee

Beaverdam	$ 595.82
Cypress Creek	36.50
Oak Grove	82.55
Pee Dee District Auxiliary Convention	60.00
Pee Dee Association	238.00
TOTAL	$ 1,012.87

Piedmont

Bethany	$ 15.47
Heritage Mission	100.00
House of Prayer	25.00
TOTAL	$ 140.47

Western

Calvary	$ 25.00
Everett's Chapel	83.60
Fellowship	100.00
First Union	100.00
Floods Chapel	13.00
Free Union (Nash County)	3.60
Fremont, First	5.00
Holly Springs	200.00
Kenly	9.33
Little Rock (Wilson County)	251.00
Marsh Swamp	3.00
Micro	30.89
Mount Zion (Nash County)	106.00
Oak Grove	135.00
Peoples Chapel	162.16
Piney Grove (Johnston County)	78.00
Pleasant Hill (Wayne County)	146.83
Pleasant Grove (Pikeville)	111.18
Rains Cross Roads	12.00
Saint Mary's (Wilson County)	495.00
Selma	25.00
Sherron Acres	200.00

Spring Hill	200.00
Stoney Creek	500.00
Stoney Hill	1.20
Stancil's Chapel	1.00
Second Union	75.00
Trinity	250.00
Unity	76.00
Union Grove (Wayne County)	4.00
Western Conference	200.00
Western District Auxiliary Convention	23.50
Wilson, First	187.50
Youth Fellowship	25.00
TOTAL	$ 3,838.79

Individuals

Brown, Jerry D.	$ 50.00
Creech, Sharlene	8.00
Crumpler, Larry and Cathy	10.00
Duncan, Lester L., Jr.	40.00
Harrell, Kinchen O.	50.00
Harris, Dennis, Sr.	50.00
Jones, Eula	10.00
Kennedy, Percy	100.00
Taylor, O. B.	225.00
Thigpen, Earl	25.00
Turnage, Mrs. R. G.	10.00
Weston, Marvin	150.00
Yates, Joseph	120.00
TOTAL	$ 848.00

Other

North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Christian Service Fund	$ 107.05

Out of State

Zion Church, Blakely Georgia	$ 200.00
Total Contributions	$16,022.04

Woman's Auxiliary

RIVERSIDE RETREATS AT CAMP VANDEMERE

Have you noticed that you can hardly find a spot near the water for a picnic these days unless you own some property on the shoreline? And very few of us have private waterfront retreats.

Did you know that we Free Will Baptists jointly own a secluded, quiet, beautiful, and almost private piece of riverside real estate? Yes. Camp Vandemere. And even though it is closed for the season, you can choose a nice day to enjoy a restful few hours near the water; or to remember the good times in the conferences and retreats during 1977; or to look forward to the summer of 1978.

During 1977 Camp Vandemere was the scene of four week-long conferences in addition to the weekend retreats sponsored by different church groups. This sounds good; but it's disappointing to realize that less than half of our Eastern District churches are using and supporting the Camp.

Plans are shaping up already for this summer. The first full week is for AFC's June 12-16. Sunday school week is June 26-30; YFA week is July 3-7; and Volunteer Youth Conference is August 14-18. Two other weeks have been reserved; but it is open from July 10 to August 11 and several weekends.

The Woman's Conference is set for June 19-23. Last year our registration doubled; and we hope to double it again.

Excitement is in the air from the plans for our high school juniors and seniors to have their own Junior-Senior weekend! Cost will be kept to a minimum. If you want more details about this weekend in May, contact Calvin Heath; or keep watching this paper.

In the meantime—remember that, in order to keep and enjoy Camp Vandemere, we must support it not only with our prayers and our presence, but with our presents. Real estate is a limited resource, and it is becoming more and more difficult to find good waterfront property. Let's make sure keep this retreat available not only for ourselves, but for future generations of Free Will Baptists to enjoy. Payments of about $1,300 a month have to be made twelve times a year even though we use the property only during warm months. We'd like to make payments ahead of time instead of falling behind. How about sending a special offering NOW? Send it to Mr. James K. Spruill, Treasurer, Route 2, Box 103-A, Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586.

If you want to plan a weekend retreat, or make reservations for any other time, contact the Rev. Ralph Sumner, Oriental, North Carolina, or send your request to me (604 Rountree Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501) and I'll try to get the information for you, or forward your request to the proper person.

Nina Grace Register
Camp Vandemere Chairman
Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary

CRAGMONT NEWS

On December 30, 1977, a Cragmont Rally was held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson. The group of 400 was uplifted and entertained by the varied program presented. We wish to thank the various singing groups present and the puppeteers from the Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church for their parts on the program. A special thanks goes to Nicky Cruz, the featured speaker for the evening, for donating his time to the program. An offering of $1895.55 was received at the rally, but this figure has been raised to over $2,000 as other donations have been received through the mail.

We must recognize Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Pitt County for showing their love for Cragmont by holding a "Rock-A-Thon" which raised $657.35 for the building fund. We also wish to recognize the YFA of the Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church of New Bern for holding a halloween carnival and donating the proceeds of $156 to the building fund. All of this money was given as a way of showing a love for Cragmont. Surely this speaks well of the ministry of Cragmont and what is is doing for our denomination.

You may have noticed that the Cragmont Board has initiated a new drive to raise funds for the new building fund. You may purchase a square foot of the new building for $25. If you wish for your donation to be accounted in this manner, please specify so on your check. To show our appreciation, we will send you a nice certificate in return. This seems to be an ideal way for groups such as Sunday school classes, to give to Cragmont.

We still have a few openings left in March and April, and we would like to fill them with your church's name. We want to come to your church or church function to present a Cragmont program. Many of our churches still do not know about Cragmont and how it can serve them.

May God bless each of you who has contributed to Cragmont in any way during the past year, whether by attendance at camp, labor, financial contributions, or prayers. Continue to support Cragmont through your contributions and, most important, your prayers.

Rev. Douglas Skinner
Manager-Promotional Secretary

the Sunday School LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For February 5

GOD'S ACTION IN HISTORY

Lesson Text: Psalm 105:1-11, 43-45
Memory Verse: Psalm 77:12

I. INTRODUCTION

Fredrick Douglas was a fugitive slave who had fled from a southern plantation to the North. In 1847 he addressed a small gathering of Negroes in Ohio during one of the many antislavery conventions prior to the Civil War. His own sufferings and those of his people, and the slow progress the nation was making toward liberation of slaves, had depressed him; a certain bitterness was manifest in the speech he made.

In the midst of the speech, he was suddenly interrupted by an aged Negress named Truth, who was active in the movement to secure freedom for the slaves. She cried out, "Fredrick, Fredrick, is God dead?"

His answer was, of course, that God was not dead. God was not dead in the days of Gideon; He is not dead in our day. Blessed are they to whom is given the instinct to tell that God, though invisible, walks among the nations today.

Every student of history, ancient, modern, and the history of the Middle Ages, has been aware of the mighty hand of God in the affairs of people. We are inclined to think that God is with us in a more special way than with other nations. That is not true. He walks in China, in India, in Europe, in Africa, and in all parts of the globe where men live. He cares for man, and asks that man declare Him among the nations. This is what the psalmist in today's lesson would teach us.—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Our possession of certain blessings related to Christian commitment will be affected by disobedience. We can lose the comfort of the indwelling Spirit, answers to prayer, effectiveness in witnessing, and our sense of expectancy concerning Christ's return if we trifle with God's laws.

B. Because of God revelation of himself in the Bible, we need not set out in a quest to prove His existence or to discover His nature. But we are to seek Him prayerfully, to learn of His will for our lives, and strengthen our realization of His love and concern for us.

C. When we endeavor to communicate our faith to others, it is inevitable that we shall speak of our feelings. But human beings vary in their capacities for emotional experiences, and even those who are prone to the greatest heights of emotion will know periods of emotional calm. Thus it is essential that we speak strongly of the great events of the New Testament, which form a solid historial basis for our faith. Then, even when feelings fade, the facts will be unshaken.

D. Unlike other religions, which have come into existence through a process of natural development and application of human reason, Christianity is rooted in history. Like Judaism before it, the Christian faith can trace its doctrines and practices back in history.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Some have the idea that God created the world and then backed off and left it to operate without any supervision from Him. This is the mechanistic view of the world. Our lesson today points out that God takes an active part in the operation of this world and the lives of the people in it. This does not mean that men live like robots; it means God is present and supervises His creation.

B. God does more than oversee His people while they are here, He has promised them an inheritance. For the Jews, this inheritance was the Land of Canaan. For God's people, the inheritance is Heaven. God gives us security and protection along the way, even as He did the Children of Israel on the way from Egypt to the Promised Land. God never ceases to care for His own.

C. God promised Abraham that through him and his seed all nations should be blessed. The promise was renewed in Isaac and again in Jacob. God has not forgotten His people. The Lord Jesus Christ was the promised seed; the gospel of salvation is for all nations. Because of their pride, the Jews interpreted the promise in narrowly nationalistic terms, thus missing the greatest blessing God had to them.

D. God took care of His people by both day and night. He sent the pillar of cloud to guide them by day and the pillar of fire to lead them at night. He fed them; He furnished water. He even gave them appetites to enjoy the food. Isn't it marvelous the way God cares for His own?

E. God has cared for His people; He does care for His people; and He will continue to care for His people. We may safely trust Him, knowing that "all things work together for good to them that love God." We have His reassuring word and admonition from the Apostle Peter: "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you" (1 Peter 5:6, 7).

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

TWELVE THINGS TO REMEMBER

1 The value of time.
2 The success of perseverance.
3 The pleasure of working
4 The dignity of simplicity.
5 The worth of character.
6 The power of kindness.
7 The obligation of duty.
8 The influence of example.
9 The wisdom of economy.
10 The virtue of patience.
11 The improvement of talent.
12 The joy of originating.

—Selected



story corner

GOD SPEAKS

LAST week we learned how the Hebrews prepared themselves for a visit from God at the mountain called Sinai.

Early in the morning Moses called all the people together around the foot of the mountain. They were dressed in their very best clothes, which were newly washed. They had spent three days cleaning their hearts and minds, also. They were eager to hear God's voice. It had been hundreds of years since anyone, other than a special few, had heard the voice of God. But they became a little afraid, also.

Let us pretend we are in the crowd at the foot of the mountain. As we look around, we see just how many Hebrews have walked the long, tiring journey from Egypt. There are thousands of them: men, women, children, and all their herds of cattle, sheep, and goats.

Even though there are so many people, there is not a sound to be heard! It even seems as if everyone is holding his breath.

We hear thunder in the distance. It grows louder and louder. Lightning is flashing all around. We think we see a storm cloud coming toward us. The people look frightened. The cloud settles over the mountain. Now it looks like smoke. The whole mountain is smoking as if it were all on fire!

Suddenly everyone is startled by the sound of trumpets. They get louder and louder until it seems our ears will burst.

Suddenly they stop. A voice booms out calling for Moses. Moses walks over the rope fence and disappears in the smoke. The people begin to whisper. They are wondering if he will ever return. Many are afraid he will not be seen again.

But later we see Moses again come out of the smoke. The people cheer. He holds up his hands to silence them. We hear him as he delivers God's message to the people. They must not go beyond the ropes, for they will surely die. God is on the mountain, but no man can be allowed to see Him.

Many of the people have questions to ask. Most of them want to know if Moses saw God.

Moses tells them that he did not. The smoke was so thick that he could see nothing.

The time had come for God to tell the Hebrews how He wanted them to live. He was ready to give them the laws by which they would be ruled.

The people were quiet again. The voice of God was heard.

"I am the Lord, your God. I have brought you out of Egypt where you were slaves. Now you are a free people. My first law shall be: You shall worship no other gods. You shall put Me first in your lives. Do not let anything become so dear to you that you place it above Me in your love.

"Forget about the idols the Egyptians worshiped. Love and worship only Me, for I am the only living God. Never make an idol to worship. I am a jealous God. I will not let idol worship go unpunished. But I will love and care for all who worship Me.

"You shall not use My name as slang. When My name is spoken, it shall be in reverence.

"Remember the Sabbath Day. You shall work for six days, but on the seventh day you shall rest and take time to worship and think about the wonderful creation of the world. The seventh day is a holy day. You are to use it to look around you and appreciate My goodness to you and be thankful.

"Honor your father and mother. Be kind to them. Respect them, for they have loved and cared for you.

"You shall not kill another person.

"You shall be faithful to your marriage promises and keep them.

"You shall not steal anything which belongs to another person.

"You shall always tell the truth about other people.

"You shall not be jealous of others. Do not envy anyone of what he has."

The voice has stopped. The thunder and lightning are flashing again. The people are shaking with fear. They have backed away from the smoking mountain.

They called out to Moses. They are too frightened to listen to God. They want Moses to go back up the mountain and let God give the laws to him. Then he can tell them to the people. They will believe him and trust him.

So Moses once again disappears up the mountain and is swallowed up by the smoke.

When he returns he tells the people all the laws God has spoken to him.

One of the laws is about slavery. God said that if anyone bought a slave he could keep him only seven years. At the end of that time the slave could be free, for his work would have paid the master for his freedom. If the slave wanted to stay, he could.

Moses told the people that anyone who broke any of the laws given by God must be put to death.

There were many laws. We will not go over them all. Many of them are laws which we use in our land to govern us.

There were also rules about feast days and how to worship.

God made a promise to the people. If they would obey His rules, He would send an angel before them into the land of Canaan to prepare for them. By the time they reached Canaan, they could overcome the armies and take the land for their own.

Again they were warned not to take the gods and idols of these people. They must never worship any but the Lord.

The people heard the words of Moses. They promised to obey all the laws. So Moses built an altar and the people worshiped God by sacrificing animals. By doing this, they were promising to keep all the laws of God.

Moses wrote down all the laws and rules in a book which was called the Book of the Covenant.

God told Moses to come up on the mountain and he would be given a tablet of stone on which He had written the Ten Commandments.

Moses left the people in the care of Aaron and Hur and went back up on the mountain.

(Continued on Page 15)

NEWS & NOTES

Mount Zion Church
Watchnight Service

The members of Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church of Roper, held a watchnight service on December 31.

Following the quarterly business meeting, a fellowship hour was held in one of the classrooms. Everyone enjoyed holiday treats and soft drinks served buffet style. Afterwards, the congregation gathered in the sanctuary to celebrate the passing of the old year.

Several members testified about God's mercy and blessings over the past year and asked for His continued love and mercy in their lives during the coming year. Mrs. Mae Oliver read two inspiring poems containing messages about putting Christ in the New Year. Special music was provided by the Ladies Trio.

The Rev. Charlie Overton then delivered a morning message entitled "Watchnight Thoughts for the Coming Year." A few minutes before midnight, the entire congregation gathered at the altar for a chain prayer. Mr. Overton prayed the benediction. It was a beautiful and reverant way to end an old year and begin a new one.

First Union of Western Conference
Stancil's Chapel Church

The first union of the Western Conference will meet Saturday, January 28, with the Stancil's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Johnston county. The host pastor, the Rev. J. B. Godwin, and the union extend a cordial invitation to all to attend. The Rev. Roland Cherry, pastor of the Micro Free Will Baptist Church, will preach the union message.

Spring Branch
Dedicates Baptistry

On January 8, during the morning worship services, Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, near Walstonburg, dedicated their newly installed baptistry for the sacred use of baptizing believers in Christ. What seemed just a dream a few short months ago is now a reality! New carpet has been installed in the sanctuary and railings have been placed along the sides of the altar which truly add to the beauty and warmth of the church.

But more important than the physical additions to the church are the spiritual ones. The congregation of the church has also witnessed the first baptism ever held in the church. Seven new members were baptized Sunday morning following the dedication of the baptistry. Both of these events on this special day at Spring Branch church were visible to prayers of the people.

Gospel Singing at
Otter's Creek Church

There will be a gospel singing at the Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Macclesfield, on Saturday night, January 28, at 7:30 p. m. The featured singers will be the King's Messengers.

Everyone who enjoys good gospel singing is invited to come and worship.

Second Union S. S. Convention and
Union Meeting, Reedy Branch Church

The Second Union Sunday School Convention and the Second Union Meeting of Original Free Will Baptists will meet January 29, at the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville. The host pastor is the Rev. Willis Wilson. The Sunday School Convention begins at 3 p. m. with Bruce Gray as president. The Union Meeting follows with W. R. Harris as moderator. All area churches are invited to attend.

Cabin Church Presents
Christmas Program

On Friday night, December 23, the Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, near Beulaville, presented the annual Christmas program. However, it was not using the traditional Nativity scene. The main focus was the plan of salvation. The program was outlined by the pastor, the Rev. William L. Littleton. God rewarded the group greatly and saved six souls. It was a great spiritual uplift.

LOVING MEMORIES OF KENNIE MCGLOHON

Early on the morning of October 1, 1977, God in His infinite wisdom and tender mercy called Mrs. Kennie Forlines McGlohon to be in His blessed presence.

She had lived a busy Christian life. She was 87 years old. She was married to Grover McGlohon. She left behind to mourn her departure two sons and six daughters.

She was a member of the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church. She was a devoted member of her church, always ready to do everything possible to help anyone she could. She was a church on Sundays, and prayer meeting on Wednesday nights up until her death.

She had a lot of friends and neighbors whom she loved. She often spoke about God and how good He and people were to her. There is a vacancy in her home, and in her church, but she has filled her place in Heaven.

Just a thought for today,
Of what helps along the way.
As we journey through life,
God will strengthen during strife.
In the Bible, His guidebook,
For those who care to look
He gives the answers of how to live
How to take and how to give.
One day her Christian loved ones
and friends will meet her
To part no more.

A friend,
Lossie B. Whitehurst

NOTE OF THANKS

The Rev. and Mrs. Herman Wooten wish to express their sincere thanks for all love offerings, gifts, prayers, and other manifestations of concern shown them during the Christmas season. Friends will want to continue to remember this dedicated couple.

—The Editor



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

Recently I loaned my copy of BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED by Joyce Proctor Beaman to a friend. My friend's mother visited her, read the book, and was deeply touched by its message. When the book was returned to me, I found the following poem tucked between its pages. It has a lovely message for those in their golden years.

"God loves the Aged.
He gives them greater visions than the young;
He puts the words of wisdom on their tongue;
And keeps His presence over by their side.
From dawn to dusk and on through eventide."

—Charles W. H. Bancroft

Name Withheld

ATTENTION READERS!

The deadline for the decision to make SPECIAL MOMENTS a hardback book (see THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, January 4 issue) has been extended to January 31. Some announcement will be made early in February.

If you desire to see this book in print, be sure to write or call the editorial department at the Press and state your interest in having a copy. Your response must be received by January 31, at which time the final decision will be made.

The publisher must have a sufficient expression of interest from the readers of the column before SPECIAL MOMENTS, the book, can become a reality. Do not delay. Contact the Press immediately.

Maggie

MOUNT OLIVE

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations of Mount Olive College, a group of students singing gospel songs and sharing testimonies, will appear at two churches Sunday, January 29.

For the morning service, the singers will present a program at Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church in Beaufort County. The Rev. Charles Richardson of New Bern is pastor.

In the evening, the singers will perform at First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro. The Rev. Earl Glenn is pastor.

HERRING TO SPEAK

Harold Herring, director of development at Mount Olive College, will speak at Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church in Lucama on Sunday, January 28, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. DeWayne Eakes is pastor.

Children's Home

(Continued from Page 9)

some special interest, some project that you would like to attempt on behalf of the Home? We are certain that God will bless your every effort to make life a bit more enjoyable for the children at the Home.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

Christmas brought many blessings for us at the Children's Home this year. All of our children enjoyed many, many presents and visits with their parents and sponsors.

Our contributions for the month of December exceeded last year by more than $10,000. We are so very grateful to our churches and friends for making our fall and winter such a blessing.

As January, February, and March approach us, we face some of our more difficult months. Our utilities are very high during this period. We know we can depend on you, our friends and member churches, to insure that we will have a wonderful spring.

STORY CORNER

(Continued from Page 13)

When he had gone up the side, a cloud settled down over the mountain. For six days Moses waited. On the seventh day God came down upon the mountain to be with Moses.

The people of Israel wondered what was happening. They saw the cloud hover over the mountain for six days, and on the seventh day it looked as if the mountain were on fire. It shone as the sun. They were certain Moses could not be alive in the middle of such a fire.

Moses was gone forty days and forty nights. By this time even Aaron was convinced Moses was not going to return from the mountain. Next week we shall learn what the Hebrews did when they believed Moses to be dead.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

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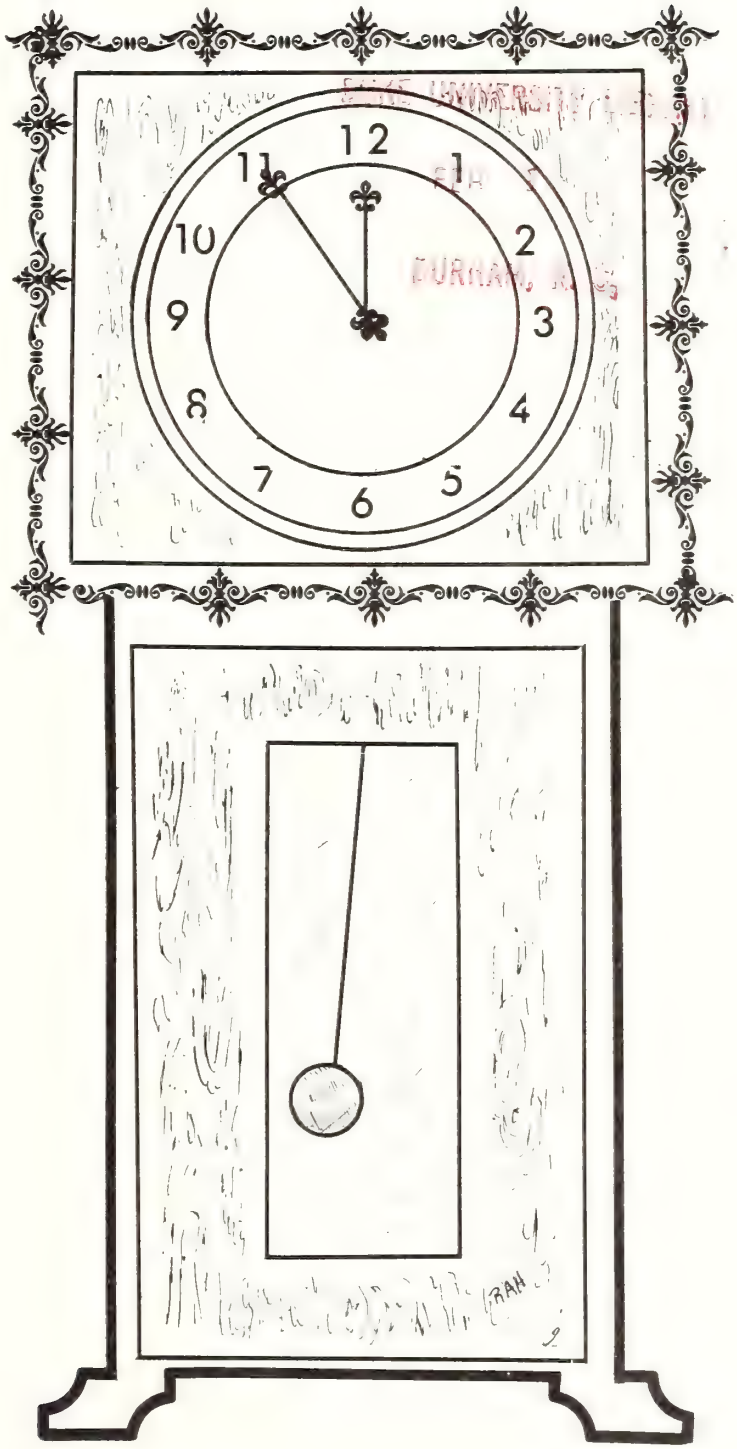


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the free will baptist

AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA
FEBRUARY 1, 1978



If you have FIVE MINUTES, consider what you can do . . .

Cover Photo by Ronnie Harrison

Editorial . . .

IT TAKES ONLY FIVE MINUTES

Guest Editorial by Joyce Proctor Beaman

A few days ago a friend told me about a relative who had praised her because she was able to keep her knife-fork-and-spoon drawer in order. The friend related that she had consoled the relative by saying, ''Well, we can't do everything,'' but then added, ''but you know, it takes fewer than five minutes a day to keep a silverware drawer in order.''

There is great truth in that statement, and even greater reality lies in the truth that it takes only five minutes to do many things.

It takes only five minutes to call an aged, ill, or depressed friend, or to make a just-to-keep-in-touch-because-I-care call.

It takes only five minutes to write a cheerful note, and even less time to write a card or to sign a greeting card.

It takes only five minutes to talk with a child about a problem—or a dream.

It takes only five minutes to say, ''How are you today?'' ''Are you troubled?'' or ''Is something bothering you?''—and to listen to an answer.

It takes only five minutes to read a chapter in the Bible, and less time to read a few verses.

It takes only five minutes to add fresh flowers to a room, or to write a note of praise to leave on a child's pillow.

Moreover,

It takes only five seconds to be born into life: it takes fewer than five seconds to be borne unto eternity.

It takes only one second to say, ''I love you,'' to a yearning, hungry heart.

It takes only one second to say, ''Forgive me.''

It takes only one second to say, ''Help me.''

It takes only one second to say, ''I love you, God.''

Most of all, it takes only a split second to say a one-word prayer by breathing that holy name, JESUS.

A split second is all we really need.

A split second will someday be all we have.

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THE MINISTER AND HIS DRESS

by W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College

(This presentation was made at a meeting of ministers of the North Carolina Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists and is hereby printed at the request of those in attendance. Gary Bailey, Moderator.)

NOT long ago one of our fine young ministers assisted me in officiating at an informal church wedding. Later when the two of us were alone, I debated with myself whether or not I should speak to him on a very delicate subject—one about which he could have been very sensitive—his dress. I knew I was running the risk of offending him, but I regarded him as exceptionally mature for his age, and because I thought I might be able to say something that would make his ministry more effective, I approached the subject:

"You performed your part of the ceremony today with meaning and dignity." He thanked me, so I continued: "If you will not be offended, I would like to point out something about which you are probably unaware."

"Please tell me," he requested.

"That is nice looking apparel you have on, but that is a sport coat." I explained.

"I was not aware of it," he said, and after some discussion on dress, he asked, "How is a minister supposed to know these things?"

Since having this question put to me, I have reflected over the eight years I spent in college, including three years in one of the best divinity schools in America, and I never remember a lecture or assigned reading on the subject of dress for the minister.

I do not write as an authority on how ministers should dress, but I offer the following thoughts in the belief that they can strengthen the effectiveness of our ministry.

Our Dress: The Image We Have Of Ourselves

It has been said there are only three reasons people wear clothes: (1) to protect themselves, (2) to express their sense of modesty—or lack of it! and (3) to express and to create an image of themselves. It is this third reason for clothes that is most relevant for ministers.

The way we dress tells all who see us what kind of person we think ourselves to be and the kind of person we want others to think we are. In his book, **Dress For Success** (Warner Books, 1975) John T. Molloy declares:

> "In almost any situation where two may meet, one man's clothing is saying to the other man: 'I am more important than you are, please show respect'; or 'I am your equal and expect to be treated as such', or 'I am not your equal and I do not expect to be treated as such.'"

Other people will not have higher respect for us than we have for ourselves, and let us make no mistake, our congregations and the public forms much of their evaluation of us by how we dress. The minister who dresses like a maverick (an independent individual who refuses to conform with his group) is either declaring that he is in rebellion, or he is saying, "I want attention, but since I cannot win recognition by the quality of my work I will dress in a way that people will take note of me."

Our Dress: The Way Others See Us

About the time I was entering the ministry, I heard an experience about a minister that was to influence my dress through the years. A young Free Will Baptist pastor who was something of a maverick in his dress presented himself in a turtleneck shirt to the receptionist of a hospital and asked for the room number of a patient.

"I am sorry," said the receptionist, "but this is not a visiting hour."

"But, I am a minister," he replied.

"Then why don't you dress like one?" was her response.

"Believe me," wrote Mr. Molloy, "If you dress like a man of substance and integrity, you will, more often than not be treated as such."

The question, then, is how should one dress if he wants to be respected as a minister of the Gospel?

Our Dress: To Make Our Ministry More Effective

There are two basic concepts regarding appropriate attire for the clergy: (1) clergy dress and (2) lay dress.

Clerical dress consists of a prescribed attire designated by a church for its clergy. The concept behind clerical dress is that the minister is a "priest" who mediates the grace of God to his constituency, and since he stands in a relationship with God distinct from the laymen, he should be identified by attire which sets him apart. This type of dress is generally associated with religious bodies which make a sharp distinction between its clergy and its laymen. Perhaps the best known examples in the South are the Roman Catholic and Episcopal churches, although there are other denominations which to varying degrees sanction clerical attire.

On the other hand, churches which believe that laymen have the same access to God as do clergymen do not generally dress their ministers in ecclesiastical attire. Democratic church government is based on the belief that Christian laymen stand in the same relationship to God as do ministers, and therefore, there is no reason to set their ministers apart in special dress. Free Will Baptists believe in the "priesthood of all believers," and by that statement we mean that laymen can receive the grace of God directly without going through the medium of a priest, minister or any other ecclesiastical offical.

Appropriate attire for Free Will Baptist ministers is to dress as laymen—that is, the people—but let the minister dress at his best. What is good business or good professional dress is also good dress for the minister who wants to make his ministry effective. And what is true of dress is also true of hair styles.

John T. Molloy, whom **Time** magazine described "America's first wardrobe

(Continued on Page 5)

Family Devotions

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5
Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 4:12

WHAT DID YOU DO?

Possibly, our greatest accountability before God, in the day of judgment, will be for the sins of OMISSION, the things which we should have done, and didn't; the little acts of kindness we could have shown, and didn't. In Christ's judgment of the nations it was not so much what they had done, but what they had not done: "For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink!" They took no strangers in; they visited no prisoners. They had lived in calloused indifference to the human need and suffering all about them. They had eaten their morsel alone!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Sins of omission oftentimes outweigh sins of commission. The Ten Commandments are still the Christian's guideline.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6
Scripture Reading—Psalm 32:1, 2

HOW PAUL AND THE INFIDEL AGREED

An earnest Christian man and faithful reader of the Bible was assailed by an infidel. "I don't understand nor do I believe," said he, "that the blood of Jesus Christ can wash away my sin." "You and St. Paul quite agree on that subject," answered the Bible student. "How?" "Turn to the first chapter of 1 Corinthians and read the eighteenth verse: 'For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.' " The infidel hung his head and began to study the Bible. He soon found it to be God's power unto salvation.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The blood of Jesus has washed away the sins of all who truly believe in Him and repent of their sins. The contentment of a true Christian is all the evidence we should need.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7
Scripture Reading—John 7:38

WHAT WE REVEAL TO OTHERS

I was aboard a large airliner sometime ago which ran into an extremely severe wind and rainstorm. Despite the size of the plane and the tremendous power of its four wasp motors, the ship was being tossed violently. A little nine-year-old fellow was my seat companion. It was his first experience in the air, and he was desperately afraid. "Are you afraid?" I smiled and replied, "No, this is real fun." An immediate change came over the little chap—fear and tension left him. He, too, had fun. This taught me a real lesson in living. What he detected in my voice, what he discerned in my face, helped him over that rough spot of life. How many people during times of trial watch my face for what it may reveal. I do not know. This I do know—my face and my life must reveal to those who observe me or need me, my faith in God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What do people see when they look at our lives? Do our lives reflect Jesus or do they reflect an ugly picture of greed and selfishness?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8
Scripture Reading—Proverbs 17:22

THE DIFFERENCE

An old Scotch lady who is a sincere Christian told me the following: "I have two daughters who take turns coming in to clean my wee house. Jean comes, and leaves everything shining, but she makes me feel I'm an awful burden to her. But when Mary comes no matter how dull the day, or how low in spirit I'm feeling, she makes everything so cheery, and makes me feel she loves to be with me. They are both Christian women, ye ken, but aye there's a great difference. Mary has what this world sadly needs, the Christian with the loving heart."

PRAYER THOUGHT

To be Christians we must have love in our hearts. This world is in dire need of Christian love, charity, and understanding. We contribute to many causes—why not the cause of Christianity?

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Scripture Reading—Hebrews 10:26

A LITTLE GIRL'S QUESTION

A little girl and her brother were carrying a basket of cakes to their grandmother. Curious to see what was in the basket, they very carefully raised the cover and looked in. When their greedy eyes saw the tempting cakes, their mouths fairly watered to taste them. After counting them over several times, they almost made up their minds they might eat just one of them. Nobody would know it, and it would taste so good! While they were gazing at the cakes, and just ready to take one, the little girl looked up in her brother's face, and asked the question, "Can't God count?" This settled the matter; the lid was shut down, and all the cakes were carried to the grandmother.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Unfortunately, for many of us, God can count. How does your life add up? It will matter much in the long run.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10
Scripture Reading—Matthew 25:10-13

SHUT OUT FOREVER!

Many years ago, a man came out from the Jaffa gate, Jerusalem, and stood upon a hillock, shouting with all his might, as if forewarning of danger, and gesticulating wildly, as if to call our attention to what he was announcing. "What is the man saying?" we asked our guide.

"He is shouting, 'Yellah! Yellah!

"What does that mean?"

"Come along! Come along!"

We now found we were about to be shut out, and this messenger had come to warn us that the gate was about to be closed. We made haste, as we did not at all relish the thought of being kept all night outside the walls. We were just in, no more. We entered and the gate closed behind us.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Be alert! You may miss your ship, train, or plane for your journey through life.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11
Scripture Reading—Luke 6:31

EXPENSIVE BUTTER

In a certain bank there was a trust department in which four young men and one older man were employed. It was decided by the directors that they would promote the older employee and also promote one of the younger men to charge of the trust department after the older gentleman was removed to his new position. After considering the merits of each of the men, a certain one of the four younger men was selected for the new position and to receive substantial increase in salary. It was decided to notify him of the promotion that afternoon at four o'clock. At the noon hour the young man went to a cafeteria for lunch. One of the directors was behind him in the line with several other customers in between them. The director saw the young man select his food including a small piece of butter. The butter, he flipped on his plate, and threw some food on top of it to hide it from the cashier. In this way he lied to the cashier about what was on his plate. That afternoon the directors met to notify the young man that they had intended giving him the promotion, but that because of what had been seen in the cafeteria, they must discharge him. They felt that they could not have as the head of their trust department one who would lie and steal. "Honesty is the best policy" both in natural things and in spiritual things.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Our Lord may have a promotion in mind for you. Are you worthy?

(Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.)

The Minister and His Dress

(Continued from Page 3)

engineer," showed 100 business executives pictures of four young men with different lengths of hair and asked them which they considered "most profitable for a young man to wear. Eighty-two of them picked the moderate haircut with moderate sideburns . . . No one picked the long hair," (**Dress For Success**, pages 35-36).

He asked another group of 100 top executives, "would a number of men at your firm have a much better chance of getting ahead if they knew how to dress?

Ninety-six said yes, four said no."

In the final analysis the minister is a salesman, a salesman for God. He is the image of his product—the Gospel—and if he wants to be about his Father's business, he should dress accordingly. The way we dress and keep our bodies has great impact upon the way people respond to us and can be significant in determining whether or not our ministry is effective. The difference between our dress being a liability or an asset is not money as much as it is knowledge, taste and concern.

Recently a faculty member of Mount Olive College was asked to speak to a literary club in Mount Olive. There is an elderly member of the Club who is hard of hearing, but she is refined and discriminating lady. During the social hour someone asked her, "Did you enjoy the program today?"

"Oh yes," came the reply, "I didn't hear anything the speaker said, but he was nice to look at. His clothes were well-fitting and his colors were pleasing. He made a very beautiful picture and I sat there and enjoyed looking at him."

Even when our sermons fall upon deaf ears, we still have an opportunity to communicate through our dress!

Churches and Ministers Available

God's spirit is still strong in the hearts of His willing workers. He has called two men from among the body of the Eastwood Free Will Baptist Church in Fayetteville to join the ministry. John Adcox and Carl Mees have been examined by the ordaining council and licenses have been presented by the Rev. W. O. Lassiter, pastor, during a recent service.

John Adcox has been with the Eastwood church since it was established 14 years ago. He has been a deacon for many years and has had an active part on the leadership of the church. He has also been very active in the music department. Carl Mees is active, working with the youth and musical program.

Both are available for supply work and may be contacted by phoning 488-8942, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

The Rev. Edgar Benton announces that he is in good standing with the Western Conference and is now available for full or part-time pastoral work. Any church desiring his services may contact him by writing the Rev. Edgar Benton, P. O. Box 395A, Fremont, North Carolina 27830; or phone 242-5283 after 6 p. m.

LOVING MEMORIES OF JEMINA SERMONS

On December 6, 1977, God in His Infite wisdom and tender mercy called Jemima (Miss Mimie) Sermons to be in His blessed presence. She had lived a long and happy Christian life. She was 88 years old. Her husband of many years was Matthew Sermons. She left behind to mourn her passing one son and four daughters.

She was a member of the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church. She was a devoted member for as long as she was able. She had a smile and a kind word for everybody. I remember visiting her, and it seemed that she helped me more than I helped her.

There is a vacancy in her home and in her church; but she has filled her place in Heaven.

Oh God, the cry of sorrow
Over the loss of those we love.
We cannot embrace the heartache
And seal it, except from above.
We must stop and listen to His voice,
That sweetly says, Be still
And lay your head upon My breast.
Trust Me if you will.

For when we are Your dear child
We really have not died.
We have only been called unto You,
Forever to abide.
One day her Christian loved ones
And friends will meet her
To part no more.

A friend,
Lossie B. Whitehurst

NOTICE

The next meeting of the Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will be held February 20 at 10 a. m. at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden.

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"

mission work...

at home and abroad.

Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
[illegible]r—Treasurer
P O Box 979
Goldsboro, N. C. 27530

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
Fayetteville, N. C. 28305

NEWS BRIEFS FROM MEXICO

The Lighthouse Free Will Baptist Church (English speaking) of Eagle Pass, Texas, enjoyed a fellowship supper and a Christmas play on the night of December 18. On Christmas day, even though many of our church families were away, we were blessed with many visitors and we had a total of 62 people present. One of our college students sang a beautiful solo during the service.

*****

Even though Christine could not be here during the Christmas vacation to help teach in spanish for the special services at the Retama and High Rise of Eagle Pass, the Lord provided us another helper. Delfina Ozuna, a recent convert of our church, translated the Christmas story into Spanish, as she and Mattie taught with flannelgraph.

On Christmas day, some of us visited the members of the Bible class of the High Rise to give them small bags of fruit and gifts from members of the Lighthouse church. It was a blessing to share on that blessed day. Several of the lonely old people had not had a visitor all day until we came by.

Christine taught the Bible class at the Retama Nursing Home on January 4 and was thrilled when two women prayed to receive Jesus as their Saviour. One of those women had months ago displayed hostility to the gospel.

*****

On Christmas Eve, in Acuna, Mexico, the State Convention met for their quarterly conference. The host church, one of our newer missions is pastored by brother Lugo, who is the father of one of our pastors. Jose Luis, a new worker from Allende, was an outstanding speaker of the day. Vance Link, and also the Timmons family attended the convention.

*****

James and Lucy Timmons and family came up from Rio Grande City, Texas, to Quemado to spend the holidays.

*****

The last monthly "Institute week" (December 26-28) was well attended. All our pastors were present plus two new workers from Brother Lopez's church in Acuna. As usual, we had some of our coldest days and nights of the month during that time.

New changes are in the making for the institute program in order that more people from Mexico might benefit from it.

Beth Timmons, the oldest daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. J. E. Timmons, is going blind unless something can be done for her soon. A few months ago an infection affected one of her eyes, which has resulted in her losing 80 percent of her sight in that eye. She is taking medicines to try to prevent the spread of the infection into the good eye. She needs to see a specialist. Please pray for her. She is married to a Baptist minister and lives in Saltillo, Mexico.

*****

The Abbott family, who lives on the campus of the institute in Quemado, had one of their missionary sons and his family here for the Christmas holidays. The son, Ed Abbott, his wife and 6 children live near Victoria, Mexico, where they are missionaries.

CAPE FEAR ORDAINS REV. HEATH



The Rev. Roger C. Heath and family

The Rev. Roger C. Heath has been ordained by the Cape Fear ordaining council. He and his family were members of Catalpa Free Will Baptist Mission until he was ordained. They are now members of Faith Mission, in Leland, where he is pastor. They are doing outstanding work here.

Alton Howard,
Pastor of Catalpa
Free Will Baptist Mission

HAPPINESS MISSION CHANGES NAME



The Happiness Mission of Fayetteville has changed their name to Haymount Free Will Baptist Mission in order to coincide with their location. The pastor, the Rev. Taylor Hill, reports that the progress has been very good and souls are continually being saved. The mission has always been totally self supporting. Pictured above are the members of the teenage Sunday school class. Mr. Harley Townsend is their teacher.

FAITH MISSION HOLDS CONTEST

We at Faith Mission, Leland, are

(Continued on Page 8)

CLERGICAL BURNOUT

The article that follows "Emotional Burnout, It Strikes the Helping Professions," as printed in the December 15, 1977 issue of the WILSON DAILY TIMES, arrested my attention. It caused me to think in terms of application to the ministers.

The following quotes were taken from the above mentioned article.

"Burnout has become an increasingly used term to describe a composite of work-related stress problems that plague persons in the helping professions (the article omitted the Gospel Ministry) . . . The syndrome affects all persons who work intensively and intimately with people who have problems. It involves a certain feeling of uselessness, inevitability and hopelessness. One person is simply replaced by another and then another. . . It's part of the myth. . . Those in the helping professions are supposed to be able to deal with it."

Although the writer of the article did not make application of this phenomena to the Gospel Ministry, many good men have become the victims of "clergical burnout." This discussion brings to mind the words of Paul in I Corinthians 9:27 (NASV), "but I buffet my body and make it my slave, lest possibly, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified (KJV, castaway)." Paul is using the analogy of running a race. My thoughts are along the lines of the minister and his family enjoying the "Abundant Life" while striving to point the way for countless others to whom he ministers.

The ministry, as a helping profession, is geared to serving the needs of mankind. This is a scriptural based image of ministry. The form of a servant to men is the way God-in-Christ came and lived among men and the call to be Christian and specifically to the Gospel Ministry is to servanthood, Matthew 23:11-12 (Wm. Barclay) "Your top-ranking man must be your servant. If a man exalts himself, he will be humbled; and, if he humbles himself, he will be exalted." He who is greatest of men is he who serves most the needs of men. The call to Christian commitment and to the Gospel ministry is indeed a call to dedicated service in the Kingdom of God among men.

Herein the danger of "clergical burnout" is identified as a real threat for even the staunchest of God's servants. What pastor, sincerely pursuing ministry, has not given and given of himself to the point of physical, emotional and, yes, if we are honest, spiritual exhaustion. We as pastors are leaders but also human beings, not angels. Whether it is with a family enduring grief, speaking a word of faith and hope to one about to undergo surgery, dedicating a newborn baby, baptising a newborn Christian, teaching a church school lesson, conducting the quarterly business conference or delivering the weekly (not weakly) 11 a.m. message, the pastor is expected to have something of a positive nature to give! This is a part of our ministry, our special calling. Then besides this we have a family, our friends, and our own personal needs which must also be met!

In this maze of giving, the danger of "clergical burnout" becomes a very real occupational hazard. Recent studies by the Minister's Life and Casuality Company show that the professional ministry is in the top three (along with the doctors and lawyers) in the incidence of emotional breakdowns and related illnesses due to the demands of our profession.

What then are we to do to prevent this from happening to us? May I offer the following suggestions. First, every minister should recognize that this could happen to me. Cultivate relationships with other ministers and their families in order to share your mutual concerns which parishioners quite often cannot understand. This can become an invaluable safety valve to release accumulated pressure and alleviate stress for the entire family. Be sure you allow ample time for personal refreshing and spiritual renewal by regular prayer, devotional scripture study and regular vacations with your family. Also, in recent months I have begun to practice the simple disciplines as suggested by the Yokefellows International which has grown out of the teachings and lifelong ministry of Dr. Elton Trueblood. I share those disciplines with you as follows.

The Discipline of Prayer: To pray every day, preferable at the beginning of the day.

The Discipline of Scripture: To read reverently and thoughtfully every day, a portion of Scripture, following a definite plan.

The Discipline of Worship: To share, at least once each week, in the public worship of God.

The Discipline of Money: To give a definite portion of my annual income to the promotion of the Christian cause.

The Discipline of Time: To use my time as a sacred gift, not to be wasted.

The Discipline of Work: To strive to make my daily work, whatever it may be, a Christian vocation.

The Discipline of Study: To develop my mental powers by careful reading and study.

There is nothing new or profound in the above but it does help in my life, maybe it will also be valuable to you. As a part of the helping profession, if we are to have something worthwhile to give and to enjoy life for ourselves, we simply must continually return to the Fountain of Living Waters and the Bread of Life.—De W. Eakes

Coming Events . . .

February 20—Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet 10 a. m., Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden.

February 25—Western District Youth Fellowship, Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, near Clayton, 7:30 p. m.

March 18—Western District Youth Fellowship Spring Convention, Mount Olive College Chapel Mount Olive, 9:30 a. m.

March 18—Eastern District Youth Convention, Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pink Hill

NOTICE

I need the following minutes for the Central Conference: 1897, 1891, 1901, 1907, 1910, 1915, 1916, 1918, 1919, 1929, and 1933. If you have any of these, I would appreciate them.

Rev. Hubert Burress,
P. O. Box 336
Pinetops, North Carolina 27864

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Please explain, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all" (James 2:10).

Answer: The Jews regarded the law as being a unit not to be broken or disobeyed by any one at any time and the one breaking it in one point as being under the whole law's curse.

Dr. K. S. Wuest translates James 2:10, 11 as follows: "For whosoever observes the whole law and yet stumbles in one point he has become guilty of all (the commandments). For He who said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not commit murder. Now if, as is the case, you are not committing murder, you have become transgressor of the law."

There is an element in our law of today that works about the same way. Not long ago a man in our community shot and killed his wife. He was married to her so his living with her as husband he was not living in adultery therefore he was beyond the reach of the law in that score, but when he murdered her he had broken the law so the law enforcement officers came in and took him into custody where he has been ever since and will be probably for the rest of his natural life. The case on the other hand was different since our state laws can hold a man no longer than what time he lives in the body, whereas in the case of one breaking of God's law the person becomes involved spiritually he has eternal condemnation resting upon him. "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness" (Romans 1:18); "But unto them that are contentious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath. Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile" (Romans 2:8, 9); "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

This abiding of the wrath of God is of eternal duration. "I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire" (Jude 5-7); compare "Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire" (Matthew 3:12); "As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of the world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity: And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear" (Matthew 13:40-43). Here is what happens to the children of the Kingdom that turn from God into the realm of disobedience: "But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 8:12). Jesus said: "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love: even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. . .Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you" (John 15:10, 14). "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch and is withered: and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples" (John 15:6-8).

George H. Sandison comments on this verse as follows in answering a similar question in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered:**

"This passage in James 2:10 is on the principle (maintained by the Jewish rabbis) that the law is one seamless garment and if you rend a part you destroy the integrity and perfection of the whole. It is as though one discord spoiled an entire harmony, one broken link ruined the chain. The law is a whole, and by breaking any part you break its **wholeness**, though you may not have broken the whole law. God requires perfect, not partial, obedience, and we are not to choose parts of the law to keep and parts that we may break."

The positive aspect of the gospel is that which pertains to us if we are obedient Christians. "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:6, 7).

When fully dedicated, Paul wrote under divine inspiration: "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I **do** forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:10-14). When one so commits himself he does not need to fear, but that God is pleased to retain him in His eternal fellowship.

MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 6)

currently in our fourth week of our Sunday school contest. So far we have been blessed with 16 visitors for Sunday school; one salvation; one rededication; and two new members to our flock. We thank and praise God for these blessings.

"A Christian Home for Boys and Girls"

free will baptist children's home



MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA

J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

MEMORIAL GIFTS

October, November, December

Total $1,556.50

Mrs. Emma E. Casey by Mrs. James C. Guinn Jr.

Ora L. Speight by Thomas S. Shinn

Nellie Whitley by Sally S. Ballard

Lacey Stephenson by Sally S. Ballard

Davis Simpson by Obed Pate

Sally Summerlin by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Crumpler

Howard Davis by Mildred Daniel

H. M. Johnson by S. A. Pittman

Essie Burress by Aspen Grove Free Will Baptist Church

Ernest L. Ellis by Mr. and Mrs. Danny L. Ellis

Thurman Brown by Edwards Class, Bethany Free Will Baptist Church

Leslie (Spec) Hart by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dail

Dwight Pate by Michael Davis

Jeff Anderson by New Haven AFCs

Harrison Scott by Mr. and Mr. James B. Hunt Sr.

E. Rufus Daniel by Mildred Daniel, Johnson and Johnson, Farm Bureau District 5, Atkinson Insurance Agency, Wicher Insurance Agency, Charles Hinnant and Company, Tom Lucas Insurance Agency, Harnett County Farm Bureau, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Bass, James Pope, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Dixon, Lola Little, C. B. Hinnant, Jimmy Waddell, North Johnston High School, Harold Hinnant, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Bass, American Legion Post 328, George Pope, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Bass, Mary Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. Solley Raper, Ernest Wilkinson, Sally Watson, Mattamuskeet School, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Bass, Roy Ballance, George Daniel, J. E. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Stephenson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hathaway, Morgan Insurance Agency, Dr. Shelton Hunter Jr., Jackie Pope, Y.P.F.C., and Josephine Pittman

HONORAIUMS

October, November, December

Total $1,007

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Wade by Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church

The Rev. Bruce Barrow by the Rev. Hubert Burress

Ray Gay by Louise Whitehurst

Caddie Whitehurst by Louise Whitehurst

ITEMS FOR SALE

The Free Will Baptist Children's Home has the following items for sale:

One 9' x 26'' stainless steel steam table with thermostat; One 12' x 5'' x 32'' stainless steel steam table with coffee pot and thermostat. Best offer. Call 919-235-2161.

Intercom system complete with panel board; 16 units. $500. Call 919-235-2161.

Rex-Rotary electronic stencil maker and 3M copier. $500. Call 919-235-2161.

Kindness is like snow—it beautifies everything it covers.

MOUNT OLIVE

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present two programs on Sunday, February 5.

At the 11 a. m. worship service they will perform at the First Baptist Church in Wallace.

At the evening service, the program will be at May's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church outside Goldsboro. The Rev. Billy Ray Jordan is pastor.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Sampson County on Sunday, February 5, at the 10 and 11 a. m. services.

HERRING TO SPEAK

Harold Herring, director of development at Mount Olive College, will speak at Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church outside Goldsboro on Sunday, February 5, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Bill Dale is pastor.

MODERN EQUIPMENT ADDED TO LIBRARY

A videotape recording unit and 25-inch closed circuit television have been added to the educational equipment at the Mount Olive College Library.

''The new system will enable the recording of programs for viewing at a later date,'' commented English Professor Sid Johnson.

The added feature of closed circuit television permits filming such classroom situations as student speeches that can be played back to allow students to learn through self-evaluation.

Filmed programs like the Free Will Baptist 250th Anniversary Television Special will be kept on permanent file.

''We are especially grateful to several faculty members for their assistance in the purchase of this equipment,'' commented Dr. Wayne Wiley, dean of the College.

IN MEMORIAM



The following was given on Sunday evening, December 11, 1977, by Mrs. Lue Rhe Gatlin during a dedication service in memory of Joey Wilson who was killed in a car accident June 26, 1977. An organ was presented to the church in memory of Joey by his parents.

"Viola Tripp and Joseph Thomas Wilson were united in holy matrimony on March 3, 1951, at the home of the Rev. B. F. Ringold in Bridgeton. This was the beginning of the Christian, devoted Wilson family. At this time Viola and J. T. began making plans for a home and family.

"On May 17, 1952, God blessed this home with a baby girl which they named Arlinda. Arlinda graduated from New Bern High School and Mount Olive College. She is married to the Rev. John Williams.

"Again on June 22, 1958, God blessed this home with another girl. This one they named Angie. Angie graduated from New Bern High School and is employed with The Sun Journal in New Bern. She is married to David Piner.

"Viola and J. T. enjoyed their two daughters so much, and about ten years later they announced that God would again bless their home with another child. Friends made plans to give Viola a shower. At this shower we wanted to help her name her new baby. We felt so sure this one would be a boy and we suggested that his name be Joseph Thomas Wilson Jr. and be called Joey.

"So on December 10, 1968, at 6:40 o'clock, Joey arrived at Craven County Hospital, weighing in at 7¼ pounds. From this very hour Joey became a part of this family, of the church, and won a place in everyone's heart he came in contact with.

"Joey lived in the same world with adults. He saw the same things but he saw them through different eyes. He matured so rapidly and was part of so many things. Little did we know that God was craming a full life in such a short one. God blessed him with good health. He was a member of our Sunday school and league, attending just about every Sunday of his life. During our Sunday morning worship, evening worship, and our prayer meeting hour you could find Joey on the front pew. He was a junior usher and so eager to do his part. When our youth choir stood up to sing, you could find him on the front row singing his heart out. Drums were Joe's favorite musical instrument. I can almost see his little hands reaching up to partake in our communion hour. You could find him with the men washing the saints' feet following communion. He enjoyed the youth meetings, the skating parties, and all the church activities.

"Joey was blessed with so many material things in his life. He had everything he could ask for, and so many nice clothes. His favorite eating places were Hardee's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Vera's Diner which he visited many, many times. Even though Joey had all these things he was not spoiled.

"Yes, we will see Joey again either when we die or when Jesus comes back to earth. Of course all the deep heart searching questions with which we wrestle are not answered yet. Some day they will be. Some day we will know why.

" 'And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose' (Romans 8:28). Joey entered kindergarten in August of 1973 at Ruth's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church school. He was such a handsome young man as he wore his cap and gown at the graduation exercises.

"In 1974 he was enrolled in the first grade at the Danes School. He found that something new had been added. He was expected to learn to read and write. He completed the third grade.

"It's not the length of life that matters, but how it is lived. That's the thing that counts. It's not how long but how well. Wouldn't you say Joey lived his life well if not so long?

"We shall greatly miss him. We know how dark it can be in the valley of the shadow. Thank God for his promise of the great reunion. The following poem must have been written about Joey and his parents."

Comfort

"I'll lend you a child for a little time,
A child of mine," He said.
"For you to love the while he lives,
And mourn for when he's dead.
It may be six or seven years,
Or twenty-one or three.
But will you, till I call him back,
Take care of him for me?
He'll bring his charms to gladden you,
And should his stay be brief;
You'll have his lovely memories
As solace for your grief."

"I cannot promise he will stay
Since all from earth return,
But there are lessons taught down there
I want this child to learn.
I've looked this wide world over
In my search for treasures true.
And from the throngs that crowd life's lanes,
I have selected you.
Now will you give him all your love
And not think the labor vain?
Nor hate me when I come to call
To take him back again?"

"I fancy that I heard them say,
'Dear Lord, Thy will be done;
For the joy thy child shall bring
The risk of grief we'll run.
We'll shelter him with tenderness
We'll love him while we may.
And for the happiness we've know,
Forever grateful stay.
But should the angels call for him
Much sooner than we've planned.
We'll brave the bitter grief that comes
And try to understand.

—Author Unknown

THE OLD BOOKS

by Mrs. C. D. Clark

E G Y L A M E N T A T I O N S N
C E M P R O V E R B S O O A I U
C N O D A N I E L E U M A S I M
L E N M H A I D A B O S A C K B
E S O A A E J O E L E I H H I E
S I R L G S O W O L A R A J N R
I S E A G O B S C H O I O U G S
A L T C A H F I A N N S A D S B
S E U H I O N B I A H A M G M R
T U E I G O A C H U R O O E L E
E M D N R K L P A Z B W S S A V
S A O H K E E Z E K I E L T S O
T S C U S Z E C H A R I A H P R
H 2 K I N G S H A I M E H E N P
E M I C A H T U R J O N A H U M
R J E R E M I A H E X O D U S W
O L D B O O K S U C I T I V E L

Within the above square are included the words of the puzzle's title and the names of the books of the Old Testament. They can be found in the usual manner, vertically, horizontally, forwards, and backwards.

the Sunday School LESSON

St Claire Bible Class

For February 12

THE JOY OF FAITH IN THE LORD

Lesson Text: Psalm 146
Memory Verse: Psalm 34:8

I. INTRODUCTION

Nothing adds beauty to a church and attracts sinners more than the spirit of praise in the lives of believers. Before sinners will be inclined to heed our invitations to come to Christ we must show that our hearts are overflowing with gratitude for his mercies.

Do you remember the healed man in the New Testament? The first place he went after his miraculous cure was to church. He appreciated what the Lord had done for him and knew no better way to reveal his gratitude than by attending the services in the house of God.

But for one person who is grateful to God for healing and shows it by attending church, there are nine who forget their promises and good resolutions until they get sick again. Someone said, "It is a poor religion that is strong only when its owner is sick." We will do well to praise God at all times—sick or well—and thereby know the joy brought by faith in Him.

Psalm 146 is the first of the last five psalms of adoration and praise. Each of them begins and ends with the same words: "Praise ye the LORD." It is as though the psalmist, after reaching the close of the one hundred and fifty psalms, could no longer restrain his joy. He closes with these five psalms, just bursting with praise to the Lord, and expressing the exuberant joy of his heart.—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Real joy is independent of physical or emotional pleasures. A person can actually experience joy in the midst of pain or suffering. And, on the other hand, people who have had access to all kinds of pleasurable situations have been unable to discover a genuine and lasting joy.

B. The time-worn idea still persists in some places that Christians should be extremely sober-minded because of their own temptations and sins and because of the gravity of the world's situation. Such persons need to be reminded that joy is a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). Joy becomes the possession of a person who receives Jesus Christ as Savior. But one's joy does not stop there; it grows continually as the Christian yields more of himself to God's Spirit.

C. One of the greatest intellectual obstacles to faith is the apparent injustice of much that happens on earth. If we can see God's concern for justice through the eyes of the psalmist, our confidence in Him will be greatly strengthed.

D. Countless Christians have been uplifted by God's presence at the time of a death among their loved ones, or when facing death themselves. Lingering illnesses; disabling acidents; the loss of jobs, homes, and possessions; the experience of being disappointed by someone we trust—these are "darkest hours" in which people with faith in God have discovered a new sense of joy.

E. Genuine joy has no relation to selfishness. It can be realized only by giving up our selfish desires, goals, and plans in favor of God's. God desires that we do those things that will produce happiness in the lives of our fellowmen. When we give ourselves in fulfillment of this divine directive, we will discover that genuine joy abiding in our hearts.

F. Without hope we cannot live, and hope centered on the Lord is the strongest hope conceivable. Worldly hopes leave us unfulfilled and dissatisfied, but Christian hope has its focus in a reality that can satisfy our deepest longing and bring us through distressing experiences.

G. There is a definite danger in placing trust in public officials, since they are persons who are capable of betraying our trust. And yet we cannot be active participants in our society without a certain degree of trust in those officals. We must temper our trust with a determination to avoid being blinded to the weaknesses and failings of such official.

—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Our lesson is from Psalm 146, which is one of the "hallelujah psalms." They are called this because they begin and end with this same phrase, **Praise ye the Lord**. Hallelujah is a Hebrew phrase that means **Praise ye the Lord**. The author of these psalms is not known. However, we do know that they are the Word of God, and they are a rich devotional portion.

B. Psalm 146 opens with a vow to praise God (vv. 1, 2). The main part of the psalm shows why it is better to trust God than man. Then it closes with another shout of praise (v. 10).

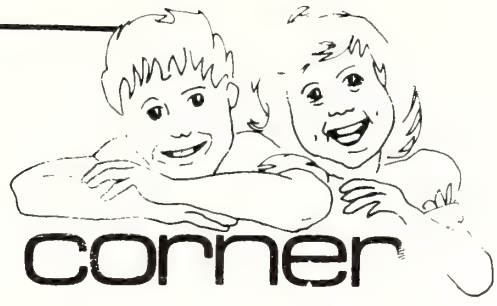
C. Any help that we may get from man is conditioned on his weakness and the fact that he is finite; that is, he will not live long in this world. But the help we get from God is conditioned upon His being almighty and infinite. God's help is timeless and eternal.

D. The psalmist makes it clear that the man who trusts in the Lord is a happy man. Why is this true? The psalm lists three characteristics of God that make this statement true: God is our Helper. God is our Hope. God is Truth.

E. This lesson makes one thing clear: every Christian should give praise to God. Praise comes from love, appreciation, and dedication. Everyone should find time to pray prayers that are nothing but simple praise to God. Do you not feel that God is pleased with prayers of praise?

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?



story corner

THE GOLD CALF

UNTIL this time the Hebrews had never had a church. They had worshiped God wherever they happened to be. The other nations had beautiful temples where they went to worship their gods. They had priests to lead their services. But the Hebrews had none.

While Moses was on the mountain for forty days, God gave him directions by which to build a temple. It was to be a tent because they would have to carry it along with them until they reached Canaan. Then they could build a real temple out of marble, stone, and wood.

God also told Moses that his brother Aaron would be the priest and that his sons would learn from him and become priests. God told Moses just how the priest's clothes should be made. He told Moses just how the service of worship should be done.

He gave Moses two tablets of stone on which God Himself had written the Ten Commandments. These were to be placed in a special box in a certain room of the temple.

But Moses was gone such a long time that the people believed he had died. They were afraid.

Because all of them had been born in Egypt, where everyone worshiped idols, many of them had also worshiped the Egyptian gods.

Now that Moses was no longer with them, they began to lose their faith in the Lord. Moses had been their contact with God. Now they felt God was no longer with them.

Some of them went to Aaron to beg, "Make us a god we can see. We want a god to carry along with us. Moses is not coming back to lead us. Make us a god."

Aaron did not want to do this. He had not forgotten how God had caused Moses to work miracles. He had not forgotten how the Lord had provided food and water in the desert. He had not forgotten how the Lord held back the water of the Red Sea so that the Hebrews could cross safely and then release the water to drown the army which chased them. Most of all, he had not forgotten the first and second commandments he had heard from the Lord: "You shall not worship or love anything more than you love Me" and "You shall not make any idol to worship."

How could the people have forgotten? They had all heard the voice of the Lord.

He argued with them, but they would not listen. As long as Moses had been with them, they did not need an image to represent God. Moses was their image. They were reminded of the Lord every time they saw him. But now they felt they must have something they could see to remind them of God. They had not forgotten their promise to the Lord, they told Aaron. They would keep all the laws. But they needed a symbol to remind them.

Aaron knew that God had not wanted a symbol of Him because sometimes people forget that the statue is not God. They begin to believe the statue itself has magic powers. Some believe that if they touch the statue it will cure their sickness. That is why God did not want statues made for worship of Him. This is why we do not have statues of Jesus in our churches today. People sometimes forget the statue is not the real God. It is not wrong to have statues and pictures to remind us of God, but it is wrong to let ourselves believe the statues are actually God or a part of God with God's powers.

But the people convinced Aaron that they must have a statue to keep God always before them.

Aaron did not know what God looked like. He had never seen God. None of the people had. So they could not make a statue of God. So he decided to make a statue of a calf to represent God. This statue could not be made of clay. It represented God, so it must be made of the most valuable material they could find.

The Egyptians had given the Hebrews much gold and golden jewelry before they left Egypt. These were the most valuable things they had. So Aaron had men collect the gold in the camp and bring it to him.

A huge fire was made and the people watched as Aaron melted their golden earrings, bracelets, belts, collars, and money. Then the melted gold was poured into a mold. When it had cooled and hardened, the mold was broken and the solid golden calf was ready for the finishing touches. I imagine it was engraved with lines to make it look real. Jewels were probably placed in the place for eyes.

When it was finished Aaron announced, "Tomorrow we will declare a feast day to worship the Lord."

The people were excited. They made preparations. The next day they were dressed in their finest clothes. They came to the palace where Aaron had placed the statue. They bowed down before it and made sacrifices of animals just as Moses had taught them. But this time they were using a statue.

God saw what was happening. He was very angry. He said to Moses, who was still on the Mountain, "Go down and see what your people have done. They have already broken My first laws. They have made a statue of a calf to use in their worship! I will not allow this! Go away, for I am angry and I will destroy every one of them. From you and your family I will make a new nation of Hebrews, for you are the only one who has obeyed Me."

Moses begged, "Lord, do not destroy them. Would you have the Egyptians say that you saved them just to destroy them. Remember your promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You promised to make these people into a great nation. They have sinned. But please be merciful and forgive them. Punish them but do not destroy them. Give them another chance."

God is a merciful God. He will forgive us if we honestly try. So God decided to give them another chance.

Moses left the mountain top and joined Joshua, a young man who had gone part of the way with him. When Joshua saw him, he called out, "Can you hear the

(Continued on Page 14)

CHURCH-COLLEGE ADVANCEMENT COUNCIL

The Church-College Advancement Council was formed in 1974 to faciliate communication and services between the church and Mount Olive College. As the College begins its twenty-fifth anniversary program the council will become increasingly important.

Each church which supports the College is invited to designate a lay member to the council. The term of office will be three years.

The council will hold three regional meetings during February. At these meetings the College will share the architectual renderings from the proposed new buildings, review the plans for the 25th anniversary program, and answer any questions. Please note the date and place of the county meeting. The program will begin at 10 a. m. and will not last longer than an hour and a half.

February 4, Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown: Hertford, Pasquotank, Washington, Pitt, Martin, Tyrrell, and Beaufort. February 11, Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly: Wayne, Nash, Cumberland, Edgecombe, Johnston, Sampson, Halifax, Wilson, Wake, Greene, and Harnett. February 18, Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern: Craven, Carteret, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Duplin, Jones, and New Hanover.

If a church has not yet selected a lay person to represent it on the council, please do so prior to these important regional meetings. The council hopes that all of our ministers will be able to attend the meetings along with their council members.

Story Corner

(Continued from Page 13)

noise? Something has happened in the camp. It sounds like war.''

Moses said, ''No, it is not war. It does not sound like battle noise. I hear the noise of singing.''

When they got near enough to see the camp, Moses and Joshua could tell what was happening. The people were singing and dancing around the golden calf. They had torn off their clothes.

Moses was angry. He was so angry he trembled. He took the two tablets of stone on which God had written the Ten Commandments and broke them into little pieces.

They went on down into the camp.

Someone saw them coming and warned the people. The singing and dancing stopped! The people stared at Moses. They thought they were seeing a ghost. Moses did look strange for he had been in the presence of God. His whole body shone so brightly they could not look at him.

Next week we shall learn what Moses did to the statue.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Dates and places of special meetings that are to be listed in the CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES in the new YEARBOOK must be at the Press no later than February 8, 1978.

—The Editor

NEWS NOTES

Youth Revival at Owens Chapel Church

A Youth Revival will be at Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City, on February 3—5. The Rev. Danny Braswell, pastor of Sarotoga Free Will Baptist Church, will be the speaker Friday night at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Rex Edwards, pastor of Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church, will be the speaker Saturday night at 7:30. Mike Harrell of Peace Free Will Baptist Church of Pinetops will be the speaker Sunday morning at 11 a. m. The Rev. Douglas Skinner, manager of Cragmont, will be the speaker Sunday night at 7 p. m.

The Rev. Swade Benson, pastor, and members cordially invite everyone to attend. Special singing will be featured at each service.

February

Entire Month Designated by the

State Convention as

Christian Education Month

SOME DON'TS FOR CHURCH ATTENDERS

Don't visit; worship.
Don't hurry away; speak and be spoken to.
Don't dodge the preacher; show yourself friendly.
Don't dodge the collection plate; contribute what you are able.
Don't sit in the end of the pew; move over.
Don't stare blankly while others sing; join in.
Don't wait for an introduction; introduce yourself.
Don't criticize; remember your own frailties.
Don't monopolize your hymn books; be neighborly.
Don't stay away from church because you have company; bring them with you.
Don't stay away from church because the church is not perfect; how lonely you would feel in a perfect church.

SECOND FIDDLE

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henry harrison



Henry and Susan Harrison counseling at the PTL Club

The heartwarming story of an overweight, shy boy, radio buff who became the co-host of world famous PTL Club. ''Uncle Henry'' as he is known to millions also co-host the famous 700 Club. Henry ''tells all'' with gripping realism and truth. Henry shares his heart-break of a bad marriage and God's love.

Henry Harrison grew up in the Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church community, Greene County. He frequently returns to visit relatives and friends and sometimes sings solos for the morning worship services.

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TWO WORKSHOPS COMING

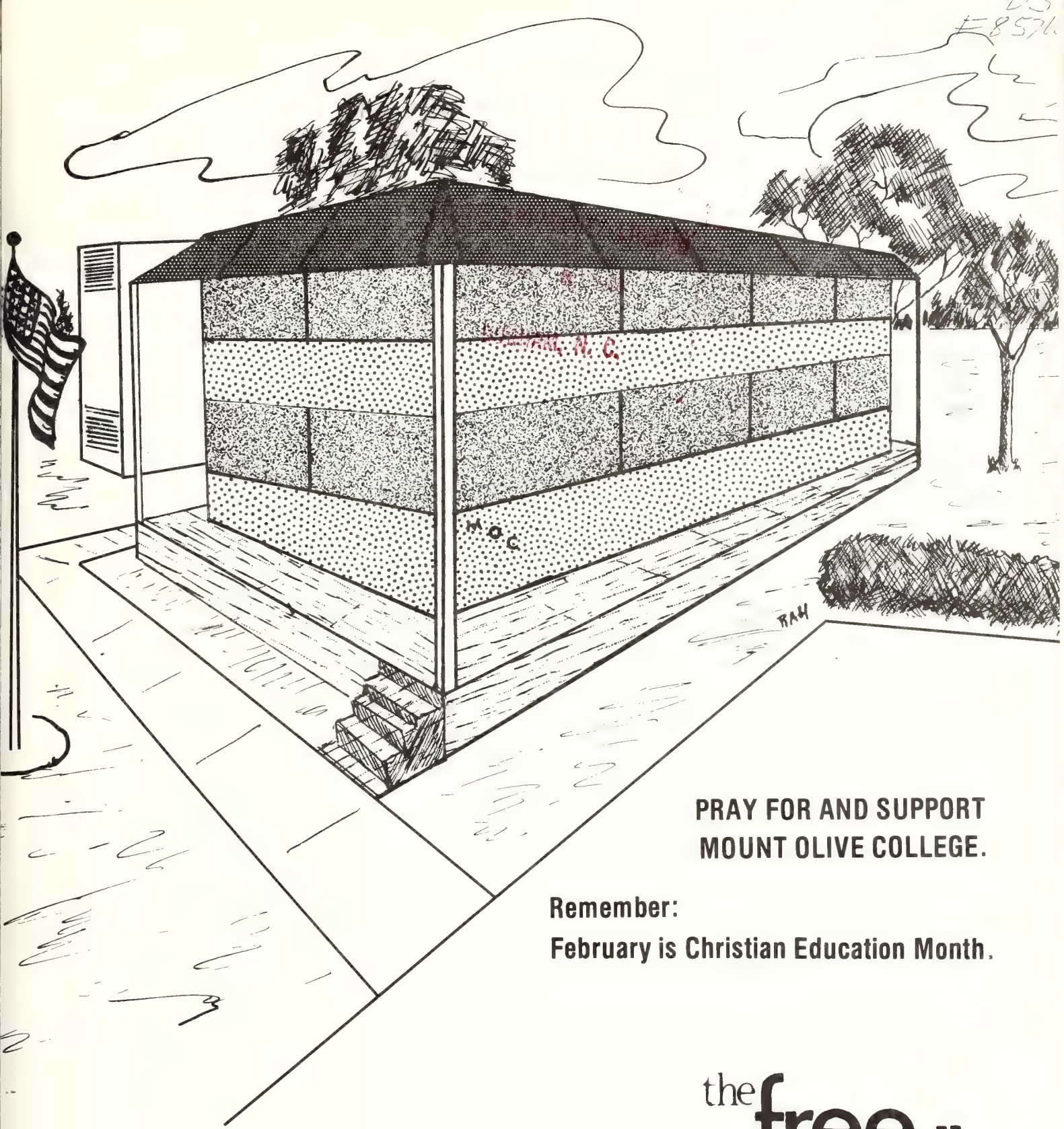
Precious Are His Promises

Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School theme
Date: Saturday, April 1, 1978
Registration: 9:30 a. m.
Place:
Free Will Baptist Church
East Third Street
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

Jesus God's Wonderful Gift

Standard Vacation Bible School theme
Date: Friday, March 3, 1978
Time: 7:30 p. m.
Place:
Free Will Baptist Press
811 North Lee Street
Ayden, North Carolina 28513
Refreshments

You're Invited



PRAY FOR AND SUPPORT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE.

Remember:
February is Christian Education Month.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1978
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

the free will baptist



Editorial . . .

Tommy Manning
Editor

Cover design by Ronnie Harrison

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH
Support MOC

Christian Education involves more than instructional method and academic achievement. There must be personal application and sharing in order for the real purpose to be manifest.

There are numerous institutions of higher learning where one may obtain "Christian" instruction and practical experience in the religious realm, but one must take care in selecting the school or schools he will attend.

First, one should choose a school that is truly Christ-centered and doctrinally sound. *Second*, one should choose a school that is academically strong and recognized, by the powers that be, as an accredited institution. (We hasten here to point out that there are reputable, small, non-college institutions which do provide fine Christian instruction: pastoral training and practical lay training. Our main emphasis here, however, addresses itself to the Christian college where one may earn a legitimate *degree*.)

We are fortunate as Free Will Baptists to be able to boast a fully-accredited, highly-respected institution of higher learning: Mount Olive College. Located in Mount Olive, North Carolina, the school has enjoyed wide acclaim as outstanding in scholastic requirement, Christian principles, and productivity. Graduates of MOC go on to other schools and consistently perform well above average.

This year marks the twenty-seventh anniversary of the birth of Mount Olive College. Few people need reminding of the struggle of Free Will Baptists to maintain an educational institution. Note the following observation: ". . . leadership,. . . which had been trained in Ayden Seminary and Eureka College (1890s and early 1900s) not only sustained the church during . . . bleak years, but looked to the day when the torch of education could again be lighted. The absence of a college of our own left our ministers and churches vulnerable to those who were advocating narrow and disturbed educational views which threatened to turn Original Free Will Baptists into a narrow sect totally foreign to our heritage and character"—*Yearbook for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*, 1977.

In 1951, the Board of Christian Education, under the chairmanship of the Rev. David W. Hansley, sought to establish a "feasible educational program"; a dream became reality, and today Mount Olive, the dream, stands proud! Its net worth totals about four million dollars—not bad for a young college! But to continue successfully, the college must be supported by concerned Free Will Baptists and friends.

The most impressive commitment of the college is the fact that its first priority is to be a *Christian college*. All else is secondary, but not inferior. To wit: The college offers a viable curriculum and philosophy of education designed to meet the needs of students who may expect to spend one-half of their lives in the twenty-first century. The college insists on a competent and dedicated faculty, administration, and general staff whose guiding principle is to "approve things that are excellent" (Philippians 1:10). The college offers educational opportunity for every qualified Free Will Baptist student, regardless of his financial resources. (It should be added here that Mount Olive College *does not* refuse admission to members of other denominations. *Any person* meeting entrance requirements may qualify for admission.)

MOC proposes to continue to strive for further development and maintenance of educational excellence, to provide continuous enrichment in the spiritual life of students and personnel, to offer relevent curricula that will effectively prepare students for both life and work in a changing world, and to work toward the attainment of senior college status for the awarding of baccalaureate degrees.

President W. Burkette Raper and staff welcome visits, calls, inquiries, and other indications of interest. Stand behind *your* college, pray for it, and guide it upward and onward!

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THE THREE "R'S" OF CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION

Convocation Address To Students and Personnel
W. Burkette Raper, President

FOR generations the basics of an education in America has been equated with the so-called three R's: Reading, 'Riting, and 'Rithmetic.

Reading is a means whereby we learn from others. All the knowledge in the world is available to the person who can read. Ponder the significance of this statement for a moment: all that man has learned over thousands and thousands of years has been recorded in written documents and this vast storehouse of knowledge is available to all who read. How important is a book and how valuable is the ability to read? Consider the Bible as an illustration. God has caused the spiritual truth which He revealed to man over many centuries to be recorded in a book:

> "These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God: and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:31).

Through reading you can tap the fountains of unlimited knowledge and wisdom; through reading you can know anything anybody else knows, including your professors! There are nearly 30,000 volumes in our library, and if you want anything worth reading that is not there, we will try to get it for you. We had to cut our budget this year, but we did not cut the request for new books!

'Riting: Just as through reading we can know anything that anybody else knows, through writing we can share everything we know. The ability to write is the ability to express yourself, and one of the true marks of an educated person is how well he can convey his knowledge, thought, and feelings through writing.

'Ritmetic: The third "R" of basic education was 'Rithmetic, the foundation for science and business. Without the ability to measure things quantatively a person cannot effectively function in the modern world. It is by means of arithmetic that we know how old we are, and how much money we have—or need!

These, then, were the three R's which constituted the so-called "basics" of an education in America for three centuries: **Reading-**the ability to learn from others; **'Riting-**the ability to communicate with others; and **'Rithmetic-**the ability that led to man's knowledge and mastery of so much of the physical world we live in. It was the diluting of these basics that has threatened to reduce education from substance to a sham, with the results that millions of Americans today, many of whom are graduates of our schools—even some of our colleges—are unable to function effectively in our society.

An education at Mount Olive College includes these three R's: Reading, 'Riting, 'Rithmetic, and we will have cheated you if we let you graduate without becoming effective in these three basic functions of life. But an education at Mount Olive College is more than mastering the skills of reading, writing, and mathematics. These are only the tools of an education, and I want to talk with you now about the three R's of life—three R's that are basic to an education at Mount Olive College.

I. Responsibility

First, an education at Mount Olive College is dependent upon your willingness to accept **responsibility** for it. No one else can assume this responsibility for you—neither your parents nor your professors.

To attain an education you must want it; education is an experience—it is not something that can be given or thrust upon you. No one else can learn for you, any more than they can eat or sleep for you. Your parents can pay the expenses, but they cannot buy an education for you, for an education is the experience of learning, growing, developing, and maturing. It is the process of becoming a man or a woman in the truest and fullest sense of these words. I have observed that students who accept financial responsibility for their education seldom get into academic difficulty and almost never cause disciplinary problems. The only students we have trouble with are those who have not yet accepted full responsibility for themselves.

When you reach the age of eighteen, in the eyes of the law you become an adult—a person fully responsible for your conduct and citizenship. Under the laws of the city, state, and nation, you now have the same degree of responsibility that your parents have, and being a student in college in no way exempts you or lessens this responsibility. From henceforth, you and no one else are responsible for your decisions and the conduct of your life. An education requires a high degree of self responsibility. Mount Olive College is indeed a college that cares, and regardless of where you go, I do not think you will find a faculty with a greater concern for your academic and personal well-being than you will experience on this campus, but our ability to help you will be in direct proportion to the degree of responsibility which you accept for your education.

I wonder if you have really thought about the meaning of attending a Free Will Baptist College. Free Will Baptists are people who believe that our wills are free, and that we are responsible to God for the use we make of this freedom. Free Will Baptists believe that our destiny is not pre-determined, rather we believe we are free to choose our own destiny. We believe we are free to become the kind of persons we wish to be. We believe our relationship with God is what we will it to be. We believe that with the help of God we can do what we will to do.

Free Will Baptists also believe that our freedom is the direct measure of our responsibility. Thus the first "R" for an education at Mount Olive College is to accept personal and full **responsibility** for learning, for the decisions you make, and for the way you live.

II. Respect

The second "R" for an education at Mount Olive College is **respect** for other people. When I entered the first grade, I was given a ruler on which was written the first sentence I remember learning to read: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." One of the advantages of attending college, and especially living on campus, is learning to live with others. Our lives are an interaction with other people, and through this interaction we make the lives of others either richer or poorer.

(Continued on Next Page)

The secret to establishing meaningful and rewarding human relations is to have respect for the rights and feelings of others.

If I had to put into one sentence what I have learned from thirty years of experience in working with people, it would be that every person has a sense of human dignity and wants to be loved and respected. I have never met a person who wanted to be looked down on. If you want an education at Mount Olive College, you must have respect for others: respect for your teachers—they will demand it! and respect for all personnel—the people who prepare and serve your food, our maids and janitors, everyone. If you throw trash on the grounds or otherwise deface the order and beauty of the campus, you are showing disrespect for innocent people—the maintenance staff who will have to clean up after you.

An education at Mount Olive College also requires respect for our friends who make our College possible. Our budget this year totals $1.8 million—or $5,000 per day, and less than one-fourth of this amount will actually come from students and their parents. When people deface or destroy property, they are not showing respect for those whose labor and gifts make the property available, and it is my observatiuon that people who do not respect property have a low quality of life.

Respect for your fellow students is also a part of your education. Theft is a form of disrespect for those who owned what was taken; loud noises in the dorm—whether from drums, steroes, or vocal cords—is disrespect for others who are studying or trying to sleep. Jesus expressed the truth about respect for others when He taught: ''All things whatsoever you would that men should do to you, do ye also unto them.''

The second ''R'' for an education at Mount Olive College is **respect.** The bigger a man is, the more respect he shows; it is little people who do not show courtesies and who have no respect for others. I have noticed that people who attain positions of true importance are without exception people who practice high respect for others regardless of their economic or social status. To show respect is a badge of greatness.

III. Reverence

The third ''R'' for an education at Mount Olive College is **reverence.** I believe the most important quality of a person's life is the degree of reverence he has for God. People with no reverence for what is holy are self-centered people, and selfish people are dangerous. The Bible describes as a fool the man who does not have reverence for God.

Nothing enriches our lives as much as reverence for God, and nothing cheapens our lives more than a lack of reverence for God. People use profanity to make themselves sound great, but the truth is that profanity is the mark of a little man—a man who is no bigger than himself. Whether you live a big life or a little life will depend upon the reverence you have for God. There is nothing bigger, better, higher, or greater than God, and He calls each of us to grow in His likeness, to attain the highest and best there is.

We are not all equal in intelligence, nor are we all equal in educational backgrounds, but you can believe in a God who is as big as anybody's God. Your God can be as big and as great as you are willing for Him to be, and the quality that will make the ultimate difference in your life will be not so much what you know as what you believe.

An education that is devoid of God deprives students of their greatest potential. It is for this reason that the first educational objective of Mount Olive College is to foster in our students a love for God; and that is why our Chapel is in the center of the campus. It is our concept of God that determines what we will do with our lives: what kind of person we will seek to become and what our attitude toward others will be. If you want a good education, you must begin it with reverence for God: ''Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom: and to depart from evil is understanding'' (Job 28:28).

As a student there will be times when your problems will threaten to overwhelm you: you will lose your way and you will want to give up. When this happens, step out at night and look up, and let God speak to you as He did to Abraham: ''Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them'' (Genesis 15:5).

The moon which you will see is 238,000 miles from earth, or one and one-half seconds in terms of the speed of light (186,000 miles per second). The sun is ninety-three (93) million miles from us, and is one million times the size of the earth. It converts four million tons of matter into energy every second. The nearest star you will see is four light years from here (in one year light travels six million miles). Our galaxy of stars has a diameter of 100,000 light years, and consists of 100 thousand million stars. The observation limit of the universe is 10,000 million light years!

Education begins with reverence for the God who conceived and created this universe, and this is the same God who wants to come into your life and live within you. He will give you an unlimited vision of life, and He and He alone can make you into the person you were created to be. Begin your education with reverence for God; you will then have respect for every person on earth, for they too are the children of God. You have the opportunity for an education that will make you all that you are capable of becoming, and the response which you make to this opportunity is your responsibility.

I encourage and admonish you to build carefully upon these three ''R's'', for they are the foundation for an education at Mount Olive College:
Responsibility-What your owe yourself;
Respect-What you owe others; and
Reverence-What you owe God.

February

Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as

Christian Education Month

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: If it is so that we cannot have a sinless person in the Christian era, what is the reason since Adam and Eve were sinless until they disobeyed and fell and since Christ died to destroy sin?

Answer: Christ became a man of His own will. He expired on the Cross according to His own will. He did that all in our behalf because it was His will to do so.

It is true that it was the Father's will, but it was indeed His. He knew that the Scriptures predicted that He would bear our sins in His own body on Calvary and that in so doing the Father would be pleased and that because of this many would become righteous.

The apostles sought to hinder His ascent to Jerusalem when He left Galilee for the last time for this purpose but, "He set His face as a flint toward Jerusalem." In posing as being reconciled to this uncompromised position they said they would go and suffer death with Him, but He predicted that when the going reached its peak of hardship that they would forsake Him.

We have the story in the New Testament. That's what they did. He did it all alone and all in our behalf because it was His own personal choice. So if we ever get saved, or if we have been saved, it was or will be of our own free will and choice that we become so identified with Christ. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36). We are saved by faith and we live the Christian life by faith and according to our own free will. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:8-10).

We have to exercise our own will as definitely as in getting saved as He did in providing the means and the way for this wonderful salvation and it is a positive, active thing that we of our own will and choice remain a victor over sin. "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). Christ who is present with the Holy Spirit in our lives directs our way in every choice we make while the devil and the evil spirits do all they know to do to defeat Christ in His influence over us. "This I say then, walk in the spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like, of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God" (Galatians 5:16-21).

The evil spirits seek entrance through the carnal nature or the flesh, whereas God in Christ and through the Holy Spirit works to protect us and influence us through the new nature. "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another" (Galatians 5:15); "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. . . .But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you" (Romans 8:6-9, 11).

This struggle will not cease until our experience and obedient activity is transferred from where we are to the very presence of Christ in our glorified bodies together with our souls and spirits. "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9) and "For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly, but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known" (1 Corinthians 13:9-12).

Here are some of the Scriptures we need to be familiar with to know how to cope with our present place, purpose and duty: "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory; but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him" (John 7:17, 18); Jesus also said, "For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother" (Matthew 12:50). The above Scriptures will help us to determine what kind of a Christian or what kind of a hypocrite we are. The one who walks or lives according to the Spirit in the new nature is Christian and he obeys "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

But the one who only obeys the spirit of the natural man: "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have ommitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel" (Matthew 23:23, 24). See and compare "But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and

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Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

As we struggle along life's way, I can't help but wonder if people really stop and think what life is all about anyway. You know, God created us in His own image, gave us the air that we breathe, our strength, our health, and this beautiful world to live in. He also gave us our children and our families.

Yet, do you ever look around at people and places and just wonder what people are really doing with their lives? Many of us drive ourselves each day to make as much money as we can so that we can drive the finest car, have the finest home, and give our children everything that we didn't have. We drive ourselves and our children to hypertension, which can lead to alcohol, and possibly drugs. Sometimes I have felt like saying, "Stop, world, I want to get off. You're moving too fast for me." We do go too fast sometimes—so fast that we do not even take the time to be thankful of all the many blessings that we do have . . . .

I thank the Lord for my early childhood Sunday school teachers and pastors. I went to church to hear their inspiring words of how Jesus Christ loves us and died for us and through His shed blood we might be saved. After hearing these words, I would walk right out the door to live my life the way Satan wanted me to live it, not the way Christ wanted me to live. But you know, through the years those faithful teachers and pastors and friends keep teaching His Word (although sometimes in vain, they thought). Those words have stuck with me through the years. Through my early childhood teachings and through that shining light given by God through a number of friends of mine, my faith has grown stronger. Praise the Lord for those people who have been an inspiration in my life. I hope I can be an inspiration to others as much as they have been to me.

We are in contact with people everyday who are sad, unhappy, broken-hearted, lonely, and sick. If we want happiness, we have to work for it. No one is going to give it to us on a silver platter. Life is what we make it ourselves.

Stand tall fellow friends,
Let Christ dwell in your hearts;
Put a smile on your face,
Keep your chin up high,
Think positive, and always
  Look toward the bright side,
And you'll find happiness
    No one can erase.

Name Withheld

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from Page 5)

the love of God; these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. Woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets" (Luke 11:42, 43).

One can easily develop a false doctrine and live as a hypocrite by wrestling Scriptures here and there and fail to know the whole of the word as near as it is possible. Jesus told His enemies "Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God" (Matthew 22:29). We are commanded "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39). See and compare Acts 17:2-12. Compare "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). See and compare "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, not sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night" (Psalm 1:1, 2); "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against the. . . .Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalms 119:11 and 105).

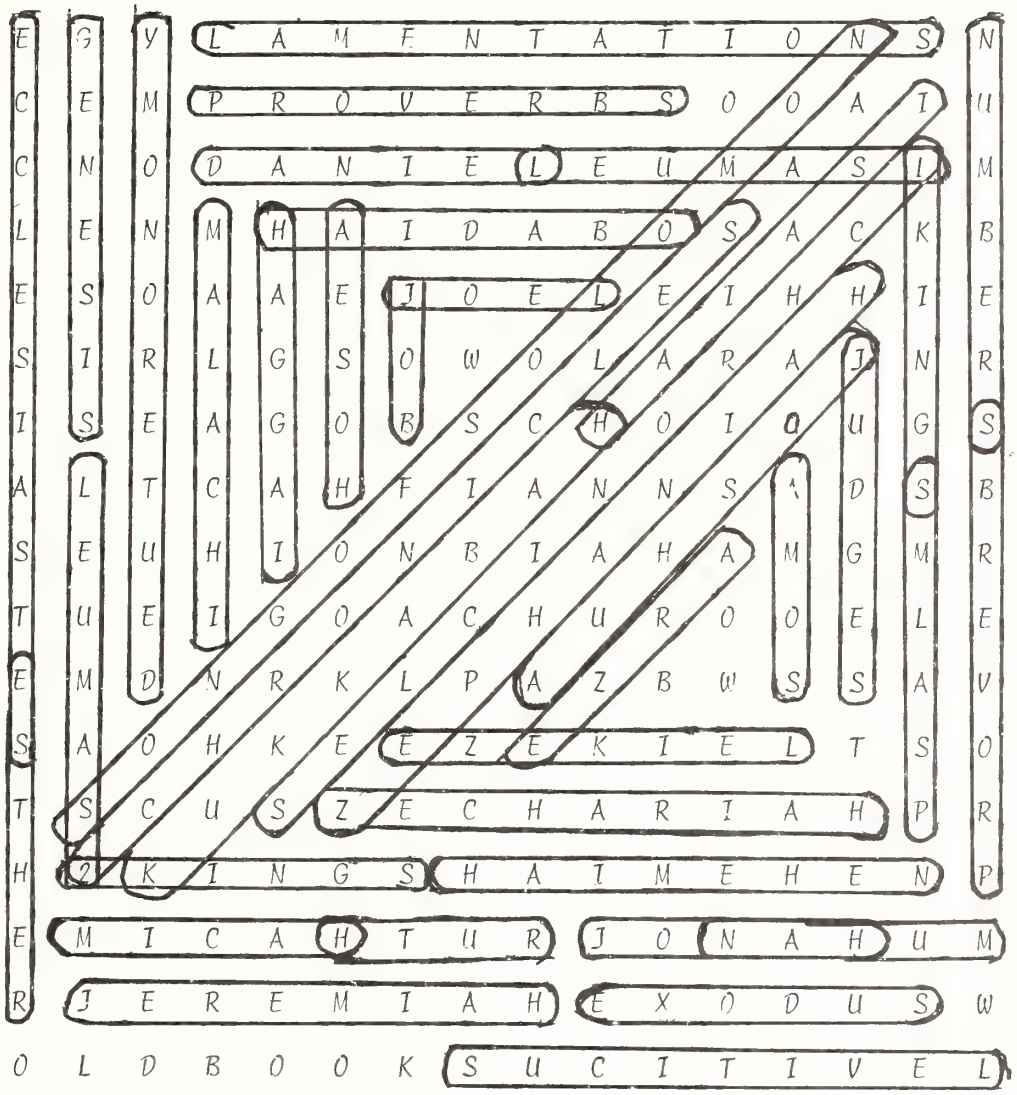
Here is what George H. Sandison says in **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered** in answering a similar question as follows:

"It frequently happens that confusion arises concerning the apparent conflict of statements in the passages in 1 John 1:8 and 3:9. In the first of these, every one is represented as sinning, and in the latter it is clearly stated that "Whoso is born of God cannot sin." To suppose that none who sin are begotten of God would exclude every one, as John himself admits in the first passage we quote. One explanation is that the writer is speaking of the divine nature implanted in the believer. It never commits or condones sin, but always protests against it. A second explanation is that the man who is begotten of God does not continue in sin. If betrayed by his fleshly nature into sin, he repents, seeks pardon, and watches against a repetition of it. However high the Christian may set his ideal as a follower of Christ, he realizes after all, that his efforts are sadly short of the Great Exemplar and that his imperfections are beyond dispute. At the same time, he can be said truly to be no longer under the bondage of sin, since, having laid his burden on the Great Burden-Bearer, sin is no longer imputed to him."

THE OLD BOOKS

by Mrs. C. D. Clark

Answers to Last Week's Puzzle



Within the above square are included the words of the puzzle's title and the names of the books of the Old Testament. They can be found in the usual manner, vertically, horizontally, forwards, and backwards.

Mount Olive College

RELIGIOUS LIFE PROGRAM AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Frank Harrison, Chaplain

What is the meaning and process of education, but ultimately preparing us for life in relationship to God, both now and forever, and to use our life to love Him and serve Him in this world and in the world to come? An educational process or program that does not point to the ultimate reality of God in our lives is but a dead end road. for surely ''Life is a journey, not a destination.''

Taking the words of Jesus, ''. . .man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.'' Mount Olive College seeks to give students an opportunity to develop in heart and spirit, as well as mind. Many avenues and opportunities are used for the spiritual development of students and personnel through individual and corporate worship experiences.

Each Sunday during the school year, there are worship services and Sunday school in Rodgers Chapel. Each Tuesday, 11 a. m. is set aside for worship. Some of the services are conducted by the chaplain, some by students, some by other college personnel. On Wednesday night, there is a mid-week service with a variety of programs.

Once a month there are discussion groups in the residence halls in a series called ''Religion and Life.'' The purpose of which is to relate one's faith to the world around him. Guest speakers and films on themes such as world hunger, energy, and ecology give students an opportunity to explore their faith and its meaning in a world-wide context.

Other spiritual growth opportunities involve retreats, such as the fall retreat at Oriental, and using Eagles Nest in the spring, religious emphasis week during the second semester. There will be a pre-Easter week of prayer, with a communion celebration service on Wednesday night before Easter.

Through the religious organizations on campus, students have an opportunity to engage in various service projects such as preparing food baskets for some of the most needy families in the Mount Olive area, and regular visits to nursecare, a local facility for senior citizens, or sponsoring a clothing drive for ''burned out'' families.

As a church-related college, Mount Olive College seeks to provide a comprehensive religious life program for the development and enrichment of students and personnel in being children of God. The College believes that the purpose of human life can only be truly understood in relation to God, and man's highest privilege is to love and serve Him. ''For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of His mouth cometh knowledge and understanding'' (Proverbs 2:6).

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Nineteen year old Judy Stroud from West Side Free Will Baptist Church is Mount Olive College student of the week.

From Kinston, Judy is a sophomore intent on a career in police science.

''Ever since I can remember I've wanted to do something to help with problem kids around me,'' Judy said. ''I feel that my young age will help make it easier for juveniles to relate to me.''

While attending Mount Olive, she has been an active cheerleader for two years and a leading fan of intramural sports. She is a member of the Grifton Dorm Women's Team, current leader in every phase of the intramural program.

Judy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace K. Stroud of Kinston.

DR. RAPER PRESENTS 25TH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will present a 25th Anniversary Program on Mount Olive College at Saint Mary's church in New Bern on Sunday, February 12, at the 9:45 and 11 a. m. worship services.

The Rev. Raymond Jones is pastor.

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations, Mount Olive College's gospel singing group, will present a program of music on Sunday, February 12.

At the 11 o'clock worship service they will appear at Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church in Bear Grass. The Rev. Bruce Barrow is pastor.

At the 7 p. m. service they will perform at Pinetops Baptist Church in Pinetops.

MEMORIAL GIFTS TO MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The following memorial gifts to Mount Olive College during the month of December totaled $2,539.20. These gifts are in addition to those made to Moye Library.

In Memory Of

The Rev. J. O. Fort by Mrs. J. O. Fort, Jakin, Georgia.

Mrs. Maude Bundy by Mr. and Mrs. Lum Edwards, Clinton.

Charles A. Decker and Ladd Lumpkin by Deems Clifton, Clinton.

Winnie McWhorter Cox and Robert L. Cox by Mount Olive Pickle Company, Mount Olive.

The Rev. Daniel F. Pelt by Mrs. Maxine Beard, Shellman, Georgia.

William Gregory Kemp III by Mr. and Mrs. William G. Kemp II, Oriental.

Mrs. Dora McCotter and Donell Morse by Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Hooker, Bayboro.

Bertha Dail and J. C. Griffin by Dr. Paul Griffin, Nashville, Tennessee.

Robert R. Martin Sr. by Mrs. Peggy Reid Durden, Valdosta, Georgia; Dr. Ruth Reid, Greenville, South Carolina; Mrs. C. G. Reid, Valdosta, Georgia; Mrs. Lucy Mooring, LaGrange; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Langley and Faith, Fountain; Dr. Hilda F. Owens, Columbia, South Carolina; Mrs. Gertrude Frank, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Royster, Raleigh; Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mrs. Barbara W. Whitfield, Mount Olive; Miss Rachel S. Martin, Greenville, South Carolina; Miss Louise B. Cartledge, Greenville, South Carolina; Mrs. Willie B. King, Forest City.

Lucy and J. W. Alford by Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Lewis, Raleigh.

Sandra Everington Aldridge and Leah Kristen Aldridge by Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Aldridge, Heber Aldridge, Kinston; the Rev. and Mrs. Melvin K. Everington, Cove City.

Maria Ervin Tingle by Miss Ermie Sanderson, Pink Hill.

Clara J. and Luther Dail by Dr. and Mrs. Robert S. Tillett, Louisville, Kentucky.

In Honor Of

Raymond E. Hart by Doris H. Moore, Snow Hill.

Elsie Brame and James Baxter Hunt Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brame Hunt, Roanoke, Virginia; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Edwards, Wilson; and Wilber Shirley, Goldsboro.

GIFTS TO MOYE LIBRARY

Gifts to the Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the months of December, 1977, and January, 1978, totaled $1,035.50.

In Memory of

Mr. Martin Baker by Mrs. Daisy Owens and Mrs. Effie Webb, Elm City.

Dr. Roscoe Barrow by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Barrow and Mattie, Snow Hill.

Mr. Elmon E. Benson by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mr. Wyatt P. Best by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Harvey Boykin by the Rev. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Maude M. Bundy by Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Murray Jr, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Murray, Mrs. Effie J. Murray and Gary Fenton Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mr. Bobby Byrd by Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive.

Mr. John E. Camron by Mr. and Mrs. John W. Perry, Ahoskie.

Mrs. Robert Lynn Carson by Gary Fenton Barefoot and Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, Mount Olive.

The Rev. Albert T. Coates by Mrs. Bessie Martin, Smithfield.

Charles Leigh Cox by Mr. and Mrs. Albert P. Cox, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Sonnie J. Dail by Mrs. Oarrie J. Scott, Mount Olive.

Mr. S. Moseley Davis by Mrs. Sophia H. Potts, Mount Olive.

Mr. Howard Mahlon Fleming by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama and Mr. and Mrs. Hardy Talton, Pikeville.

Mrs. Daisy Glenn by Gary F. Barefoot, Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, Mrs. Katherine Barfield and Mr. R. S. Williams, Mount Olive.

Mr. Jasper Hare by Miss Louise Edgerton, Pikeville.

Mr. Asa W. Harris by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Bonnie Hancock by Mr. and Mrs. Durwood Kennedy and Mrs. Sophia Potts, Mount Olive.

Mr. L. Onslow Hayes by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Hiram A. Hunter by Mr. Eugene L. Gaskill, Fayetteville.

Mr. Roy Hutchinson by Mr. and Mrs. Hardy Talton, Pikeville.

Mrs. Sarah C. Jackson by Miss Lou Esther Jackson, Kinston.

Mrs. Foriest Johnson by Mrs. Nolan Clark, Clayton.

Mrs. Annie Kennedy by Mr. and Mrs. John Melancon, Wilson.

Mrs. Mary Kennedy by Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Blizzard, Kenansville.

Mr. Alvin Kornegay by Miss Thelma Dilday, Albertson.

Mr. Dan B. Lancaster by The Family of S. C. Casey, Goldsboro.

Mrs. Kennie F. McGlohon by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Dail, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Sutton and Celia Hart Garris Women's Auxiliary, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Gladys McG. Hart by Celia Hart Garris Women's Auxiliary, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Mr. Robert R. Martin by Mr. and Mrs. Randall Albertson, Gary Fenton Barefoot, Mrs. Katherine F. Barfield, Mr. and Mrs. John Carrere, Mr. and Mrs. Doug Connor, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Councill, Mount Olive; Mr. James Alton Cowan, Thibodaux, Louisiana; Mr. and Mrs. J. Clark Dail, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Floyd, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Harrison, Members of the Henderson Science Club, 1976-77, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Herring, Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama; Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Patten, Dr. and Mrs. Michael Pelt, Mrs. Sophia Potts, Dr. and Mrs. William Potts, Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. John Westbrook, Mount Olive; Dr. and Mrs. Horace K. Thompson, Wilmington; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove; Miss Sara Willoughby, Ahoskie; Miss Pamela Wood, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. James Worrell, Goldsboro; and Mr. and Mrs. William L. Warren, Goldsboro.

Mr. Wade H. Martin by Mrs. Bessie Martin, Smithfield.

Ms. Tammy Ann Mitchell by Mrs. Ann G. Radford, Kenly.

Mrs. Joann Hardison Mooring by Mr. and Mrs. James T. Worrell, Goldsboro; and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Vick, Wilson.

The Rev. Willet L. Moretz by Mrs. Anna H. Moretz.

Mr. Abraham Joseph Newberry by Mr. and Mrs. John Melancon, Wilson.

Mr. Lonnie Ray Newbern by A. B. and Ella Willoughby, Ahoskie.

Mr. Walter S. Parker by A. B. and Ella Willoughby, Ahoskie.

Mr. C. Wingate Parker Jr. by Miss Sara Willoughby and Mrs. O. E. Willoughby, Ahoskie.

Ms. Phyllis Pegram by Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Banks, Merritt.

Mr. Chester R. Radford by Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Martin and boys, Raleigh.

Mr. Hugh L. Rawls by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Miss Kathy Jo Richardson by Mr. and Mrs. Avery Sasser and Patti Fulghum, Kenly.

Mr. Phil Roberts by Miss Wanda Peele, Middlesex.

Mrs. Jemima Jackson Sermons by Lela Nobles Auxiliary, Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville; and

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12
Scripture Reading—Colossians 1:5

THE TRUE WAY

Dan Crawford once wrote of a native guide who was leading him along a new trail one day. Being somewhat dubious of the direction, he asked his proud guide just where they were going. "The way?" smiled the native. "You want to know the way? I am the way!" pointing proudly to his breast, where the hidden knowledge was locked up. Says Crawford, "I took my text from that, sat down with him in the forest on a fallen tree, and told him of the Blessed One who could truly say, 'I am the Way.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said that He was the Way, the Truth, and the Light. Isn't that great! We have someone to guide us.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13
Scripture Reading—Isaiah 48:17

A CHAINED EAGLE

A hunter in the Alleghanies one day shot a large bald eagle. The bird measured seven feet two inches across the wings. When the sportsman went to examine his prize, he was astonished to find one of the eagle's claws held firmly in a powerful steel trap to which was attached a steel chain five feet long. Trap and chain had many marks of vicious blows from the eagle's bill, showing how he had vainly endeavored to free himself from them. While they had not been heavy enough to prevent his flying, the hunter believed that they had so impeded and wearied him as to be the cause of bringing the great bird within the reach of his rifle.

Many a fine man with brain and imagination and heart capable of high-soaring flight has been brought within reach of the enemy's gun by some trap of vicious appetite or passion that has held him down from his place among the stars.

How wise the admonition in Hebrews: "Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you feel chained to God? He is our Leader and Guide. He will be good to us.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14
Scripture Reading—Luke 21:11

ONLY FROM JERUSALEM TO JERICHO

"Fine sermon, wasn't it?" asked one of Farmer Peter's friends, referring to a scholarly discourse with which the congregation had been favored that morning by a city preacher. "Maybe," returned Farmer Peter. "Why," persisted the first speaker, "that man knows more about the Bible and has made a deeper study of biblical history and geography than almost any other minister in the country." "Has he now?" inquired Farmer Peter mildly. "Well, then, I reckon that the trouble must have been with me. You see, I'd calc'lated I should hear somethin' about the way to Heaven, and I only learned the way from Jerusalem to Jericho."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you learned your way to Heaven? Have you heard sermons which tell you about the way you can get to Heaven?

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15
Scripture Reading—Proverbs 3:28

GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD-BY

One of God's children, as he was entering life, turned to his Christian wife and daughter, and said "Good night, my dear wife. We'll meet in the morning! Good night, daughter, the separation is but for a short while!" "Then, he said to his unsaved son, 'Good-by, son!' "Why," asked the son, "did you say 'Good-by' to me, and 'Good Night' to mother and sister?" "Well, son," said the dying father lovingly and tenderly "you, through the years, have rejected Christ. The saved and the unsaved have different destinies. The lost are eternally separated from God, and their loved ones 'who die in the Lord." God's Spirit brought deep conviction of sin to the heart of the young son. Weepingly, he said, "Dad, I here and now receive Christ as my personal Saviour, and we will not be separated in the Yonderland!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it wonderful to say good night to your Christian relatives? Isn't it wonderful to know that you will be able to see them up yonder.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16
Scripture Reading—Psalm 111:3

"DOING GOD'S BUSINESS!"

The story is told that when Henry Ward Beecher and a friend were once walking together in a cemetery in Brooklyn, Mr. Beecher said: "Well, I suppose they will be bringing me out here before very long, and leaving me here but God knows I won't stay here." "Where shall we look for you, Mr. Beecher?" asked his friend. "Somewhere, doing business for God," was the reply.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Aren't we as Christians to do God's business? Have you told anyone about Jesus recently?

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Scripture Reading—Ecclesiastes 12:5

NO HOME HERE

The following story contains more truth than fiction, and may suggest a cause for the lack of devotional life today. A real estate salesman tried to sell a house to a newly-married couple. Said the wife: "Why buy a home? I was born in a hospital, reared in a boarding school, educated in a college, courted in an automobile, and married in a church; get my meals in a cafeteria; live in an apartment; spend my mornings playing golf; my afternoons playing bridge; in the evenings we dance or go to the movies; when I'm sick I go to a hospital, and when I die I shall be buried from an undertaker's. All we need is a garage with bedroom."

PRAYER THOUGHT

From this story we can see the importance of devotional thoughts throughout the day. "Bless this House O Lord We Pray," how inspirational!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 2:8

"COME OVER HERE, FATHER!"

Dr. R. A. Torrey told a touching tory about a man in Chicago who had sweet little daughter. He loved her early, but God took the little child way from him. The house was so onely and he was so angry against God, that he walked up and down in is room far into the night cursing God for having robbed him of his hild. At last, thoroughly worn out, nd in great bitterness, he threw imself on his bed. He dreamed he tood beside a river. Across the river, n the distance, he heard the singing f such voices as he had never istened to before. Then he saw eautiful little girls coming toward im, nearer and nearer, until at last t the head of the company, he saw his wn little girl. She stood on the brink f the river and called across, "Come ver here, Father!" That overcame is bitterness. He accepted Jesus and prepared to go over yonder where his sweet children had gone.—W. B. K.

PRAYER THOUGHT

There is eternal life for all who place their souls in God's hands. Our loved ones are never lost to us if we and they are true Christians.

Devotions used by permission *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations,* Eerdmans Press.

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 9)

Sunday School, Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville.

Mrs. Betty McLawhorn Smith by Sunday School, Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville.

Mr. Ben Sutton by Mrs. Pearl W. Brock, Mount Olive.

Ms. Lula H. Tripp by Celia Hart Garris Women's Auxiliary, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Mrs. N. C. Tripp by Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Brown, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Mr. W. M. Twiddy Jr. by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Miss Katherine Wallace by the Rev. and Mrs. Larry J. Crumpler Jr., Albertson.

Miss Mary Rene Warren by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mr. Herbert Warwick by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Baby Wiley by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Herring Jr., Mount Olive.

Mr. Melton Williams by Mr. and Mrs. Ottis Miller, Beulaville.

Mr. Clegg Williamson by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mr. A. D. Webb by Mrs. Daisy Owens and Mrs. Effie Webb, Elm City.

In Honor of

The Rev. and Mrs. N. B. Barrow by the Rev. and Mrs. John Hubert Burress, Pinetops.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Bircher by Mr. and Mrs. John C. Bircher Jr., Lexington, South Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence S. Bunn by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Carver by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen C. Coleman, Kenly.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow McCoy by Mr. and Mrs. John C. Bircher Jr., Lexington, South Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Moulten Mitchell by Mrs. Clara Pollard and Mrs. Pearl Bass, Princeton.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd A. Morris by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

David Brian Raynor by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Michael Felton Raynor by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Mignonette Smith by Mr. Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Wiley by Mr. and Mrs. William L. Warren, Goldsboro.

Gifts

Miss Martha Sue Tew, Dunn.

Mrs. Martha Murray, Wallace.

Coming Events . . .

February 20—Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet 10 a. m., Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden.

February 25—Western District Youth Fellowship, Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, near Clayton, 7:30 p. m.

March 18—Western District Youth Fellowship Spring Convention, Mount Olive College Chapel Mount Olive, 9:30 a. m.

March 18—Eastern District Youth Convention, Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pink Hill

Children's Home

ATTENTION AUXILIARIES

Our women across the state have been so gracious in the past in supplying the cottages with dish towels, drying cloths, blankets and quilts. Our supply is low and if our women could help us with these items, it would be helpful. We have plentiful supply of bed sheets, but we do need blankets and quilts **NOW.**

VAN NEEDS PAINT

Our Dodge van at the Home needs an outside paint job. If we have a Free Will Baptist who paints vehicles, we would appreciate hearing from him.

FLU AND COLDS

Flu and colds are plaguing the staff and children of the Home at this time. A number of children are out of school and several members of the staff have been out of work. We request your prayers for all of us in this trying time.

CHILDREN'S HOME LIFE

The next issue is scheduled for sometime around the middle of March. The issue will be late due to staff illness.

Our readers can expect to receive CHILDREN'S HOME LIFE bimonthly beginning in March. This will enable us to keep our people informed. If you would like to have it sent to you, simply mail us your name and address.

C—Cranky
H—Hostile
R—Rude
I—Insecure
S—Stubborn
T—Troubled
I—Inactive
A—Absent
N—Negative

For those who see anyone who claims to be a Christian in this way, if they will only drop the ian they will see what they need to see. To be a Christian is to be Christ like.

—submitted by the Rev. Bobby Brown
Pastor of Winter Green F.W.B. Church

the Sunday School LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For February 12

MEETING GOD IN THE SANCTUARY

Lesson Text: Psalm 84
Memory Verse: Psalm 27:4

I. INTRODUCTION

When the word "church" comes to our attention we think of many different things. To a small child it means Sunday school class, where he meets with others his age, and where he finds a teacher who loves him and wants to teach him about Jesus. To the youth, it may be a place where he can meet with other young people. To the mature man or woman, it may be a place to find fellowship with those of mutual interests. To the elderly, it may be a place of comfort, hope, and assurance.

To many, the church is an organization with boards and committees, where activities are the main purpose. These persons think of the church as a social institution that offers food, clothing, and other aids to the unfortunate people of the community.

The church may mean other things to other people. But to the psalmist in our lesson today, the church meant a place to meet God.

To be more specific, the "church" we are talking about is that part we call the sanctuary, the most holy place, the sacred area in which God meets His people at appointed times. You will always find Him in the sanctuary, where His name is exalted. The question is, Will He find you there to meet Him at the appointed time? If you come expecting Him, you will find Him.

Just one reminder, however: It has been said, "Some people come to church and sit in Z-row and then wonder why the church seems cold!" When you come to His sanctuary, move up a little closer; you will find it warmer and sweeter.—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. It is clear in the New Testament that congregational worship was to be a vital part of each believer's life. Certain forms of worship, such as singing, praying, and hearing or reading God's Word, take on an extra dimension when they are shared with other members of the family of God. Also, congregational worship gives us an opportunity to edify one another, which we are commanded to do (Romans 15:2).

B. Our worship must be concerned not only with life as it should be, but with life as it is. It should speak to the very real problems of individuals, communities, and nations. The Bible's answers to the practical, everyday questions facing people must be presented.

C. It is so easy for us to meet together to worship that it involves little in the way of sacrifice. Hence, we tend to grow complacent about this privilege that is ours. If we faced difficulty or danger in going to worship services, we would appreciate better what they mean to us and what needs they satisfy in our lives.

D. We must remind ourselves that the building and all that is in it are merely aids to worshiping God. Without the presence of God even the finest, most beautifully adorned church would be hollow and empty.

E. We must beware of forgetting that the church, however unworthy, is still the object of God's love and of the sacrificial love of His Son Jesus Christ.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Our lesson concerns worship in the house of God, which is both a duty and a privilege. It is important for the family of God to worship together. It was for this purpose that God authorized the building of the temple. It is for this purpose that we can justify the church building today. Such worship is not a luxury for God's people, but a necessity. To neglect this opportunity leaves one weak and in the house of temptation.

B. Psalm 84 was apparently written when the Jews were in exile in Babylonia. This whole psalm is a cry from the heart of one of God's children for the worship that he once enjoyed in the temple. He longs to be able to continue this worship with God's people in God's house. Why is it that those who are not able to get to God's house usually feel the need of it the most? Is it possible that man is prone to be more thirsty when the well is no longer available?

C. The psalmist once said, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD" (Psalm 122:1). This is a Psalm of David, the king of Israel, who deemed it a privilege to be in the house of God. When Jesus was on earth, He habitually went to the nearest synagogue for worship. If the King of Kings, during His stay on earth, made it a custom to be in the synagogue on the Sabbath to worship, surely the Christian will deem it a privilege to be in God's house on the Lord's Day.

D. In Psalm 84, the psalmist is expressing a longing to return to the services in the temple. It is good to be able to go back to the home church. It has been said that we never miss the water until the well goes dry. Could this be why most of our churches have a homecoming once a year and invite all of those who have moved away to return home for a special service?

E. A business man said to a Christian associate, "I am an alcoholic. You are not. May I walk up town with you when we go to lunch each day? We have to walk past the liquor store, and I do not trust myself." There are many ways to help one another as God's people; sharing in worship is one of them.

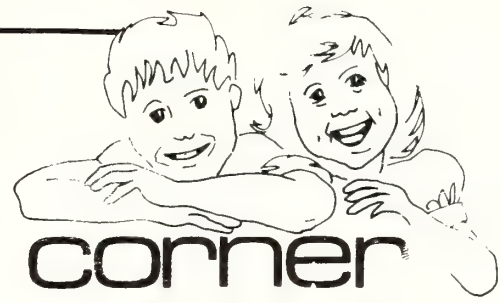
F. Those who wait on the Lord in worship are strengthened; to be deprived of the privilege of worship is to suffer great spiritual loss.

—Selected

NOTICE

I need the following minutes for the Central Conference: 1897, 1891, 1901, 1907, 1910, 1915, 1916, 1918, 1919, 1929, and 1933. If you have any of these, I would appreciate them.

Rev. Hubert Burress,
P. O. Box 336
Pinetops, North Carolina 27864



story corner

GOD FORGIVES

LAST week we learned that Moses went upon the mountain to talk with God. While he was there God gave him two tablets of stone on which He had written the Ten Commandments.

He also told Moses He wanted the Hebrews to build a house of worship. It would have to be a tent because they would take it with them to Canaan. He gave Moses directions as to how the tent, or tabernacle, was to be made. He also told Moses what furniture would go into it and how this furniture should be made.

God told Moses that Aaron and his sons would be the priests in charge of the tabernacle and the worship. The clothes the priests would wear were described to Moses by God.

We will describe all this later as we imagine ourselves watching the tabernacle as it is built.

The two tablets of stone were to be very sacred. They would be placed in a special box in a special room of the tabernacle. Only the priests could handle the box. We shall hear more about this later.

Moses was gone a long time, over a month.

The Hebrews watched the mountain for days looking for him to return to them. They saw the huge smoky cloud which covered the mountain and decided the mountain was on fire and Moses was dead.

Until this time the people had thought of Moses as their only contact with God. They did not know, as we do today, that each of us can have God in our hearts.

Moses was gone. They felt that they must have something they could see to remind them to worship and obey God. So they asked Aaron to make them a statue to remind them of God and their promise to obey His laws.

They convinced Aaron that they really needed it to take the place of Moses. So Aaron gave in and made of gold a statue of a calf.

They had a feast to celebrate when the statue was finished.

It was at this time that Moses came down from the mountain.

He heard the singing of the people long before he could see what they were doing. When he was near enough to see, he was very angry. He was so angry that he took the tablets of stone and broke them into pieces.

The people saw him as he came into the camp, and they were sure they were looking at a ghost. Moses had been in the presence of God, and his whole body shone as if it were lighted.

The people were so shocked to see Moses that the celebration stopped. No one could move or speak. As he came closer they could see the anger on his face. It was so quiet among the thousands of Hebrews that one could hear a pin drop.

Moses went straight to the statue. Still no one spoke. He set fires under the statue and burned it. Then he took stones and broke it into pieces. He ground the pieces of gold between stones until it was a fine gold power. Then he poured it into water.

Then he dipped out water and handed it to every single person there. They were too stunned to refuse it, and so every Hebrew drank of the water with the dust of their statue in it.

Still no one had spoken. After every single person had drunk, Moses turned to Aaron, his brother.

"How could these people get you to do such a sinful thing? You have all broken one of the first laws given to us. You all heard God when He said we were never to make statues for worship!"

Aaron tried to explain that the people believed Moses to be dead and wanted something to represent God that they could take with them.

Moses went to the gate of the camp. When he was there, he called out, "Let every one who promises to be on the side of the Lord and always follow His orders come over to me."

The whole tribe, or family, of Levi came to Moses. These were the people of Moses and Aaron's family. Moses ordered them to kill all who would not promise to be faithful to God.

There were about three thousand who did not promise to follow God. We do not know why, but for some reason they would not promise to be faithful to God. Therefore, Moses ordered that these people be killed.

Then he turned to the people, "You have done a very sinful thing. But I will go back to the Lord. Perhaps He will forgive you." He turned and went back up the mountain to the place where he had talked with God.

When he was there, he called out, "Oh Mighty God, my people have done a sinful thing. They made a statue of gold to use in their worship. I come to ask You to forgive them. If someone must bear the punishment for what they have done, let it be me. Take away the promise that I shall live in heaven after my life on earth. I will spend eternity paying for their sin, but please do not destroy them. They are sorry for their sin."

God answered "You shall not pay for their sin. The one who sins must bear the punishment. Take these people and leave, for I turn my back on them. They are too sinful. I will not give them the land of Canaan."

Moses sadly returned to the people and told them the words of God.

The people were really sorry for their sin. They cried. They took all their fancy clothes and decorations off and wore only the plainest of clothes, for they were mourning because God would no longer be their God. They would no longer be His chosen people. They could no longer expect Him to love them, protect them or bless them.

Moses took a tent out of the camp. It sat off to itself. The people sadly watched Moses as he disappeared into the tent.

One day they saw a cloud at the door of Moses' tent. They all knew that God had come to speak to Moses, and they hoped He had changed His mind. They all bowed down toward the cloud and prayed.

God had come to speak with Moses. Of

(Continued on Page 15)

MISSIONS

PEE DEE YOUTH SUPPORTS HOME MISSIONS



The Pee Dee Youth Conference invited Director Taylor Hill to share their program at the Oak Grove church on January 16.

The attendance and interest was very good. Pictured above are their new officers.

Director Hill and Mr. Dean Kennedy have paid recent visits to the following churches: Verona, Oak Grove, Tarboro, Mays Chapel, Kings Cross Roads, and Everetts Chapel. Hill stated that, "It is important that we attract and work with young people if we are to survive as a denomination."

FUTURE SEEMS BRIGHT FOR CAPE COLONY MISSION



On January 25, Pastor Johnnie Sexton met with Director Taylor Hill to give a progress report and to discuss plans for moving ahead. Pastor Sexton reported that the general picture is brighter than ever before. Their attendance and interest for the community is on the increase and they expect to be in a building program by early summer. Hill reported that Mr. Sexton is to be commended for the tremendous effort that he has put forth in getting the work under way. Mr. Sexton holds a full time job in addition to his mission work.

Auxiliaries IN Action

NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

Treasurer's Report, Third Quarter, January 31, 1978

Balance in Bank October 31, 1977			$3,763.82
Receipts			
General Fund			
Promotional (CSF)	$ 88.44		
Life Award Fees	20.00		
Contributions	13.05		
Interest	127.26		
Denominational Enterprises		248.75	
Total Receipts		$6,686.67	6,935.42
Total for Which to Account			$10,699.24
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		$ 108.59	
Denominational Enterprises		6,686.67	
Total Disbursed			6,795.26
Balance in Bank January 31, 1978			$ 3,903.98

Summary of Bank Account Balances

General Fund	$3,107.35
Interest	796.63
	$3,903.98

Banks

Branch Banking and Trust Co. (checking)	$ 607.35
Atlantic Savings and Loan (savings)	3,296.63
Total	$3,903.98

Denominational Enterprise Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions)	$	$ 787.82	$ 787.82
Foreign Missions (General)		476.33	476.33
Designated:			
Mexico	135.00		
Kings	20.00	155.00	155.00
State Project (Equally Divided)			
Among Mrs. Link, Mrs. King, and Mrs. Timmons	415.80		
The Fred Bakers	125.00	540.80	540.80
Central Conference Missions		15.00	15.00
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	73.93		
Alice E. Lupton Scholarship	16.50		
State Project	358.23		
Books	20.00	468.66	468.66

Free Will Baptist Children's Home:			
General Fund	789.33		
Clothing	307.00		
Child Support	435.00		
Allowance	15.00		
State Project	426.39		
Christmas Gift	100.00	2,072.72	2,072.72
Superannuation:			
General Fund	228.61		
Adopted Widow	6.00	234.61	234.61
Cragmont Assembly:			
Building Fund		851.89	851.89
Retirement Homes, Inc.		208.00	208.00
Life Membership Fees (Children's Home)		80.00	80.00
*Christian Service Fund			
Missions	176.85		
Mount Olive College	176.85		
Children's Home	132.64		
Cragmont	132.64		
Superannuation	88.43		
Retirement Homes	88.43	795.84	795.84
Totals		$6,686.67	$6,686.67

*10 percent retained for promotional (see receipts $88.44).

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, Treasurer

Story Corner

(Continued from Page 13)

course, Moses could not see God in the cloud. But he could hear His voice. As soon as he saw the cloud, he knew the Lord was there.

Moses said, "Lord, what am I to do? You told me to take these people out of Egypt to Canaan. You chose these people long ago when you made a promise to Abraham. Now you say that they are no longer your people. Please show me what I am to do. Consider these people. They are really sorry for their sin. They will obey you now. Take them back again as your special nation. Lead us to Canaan."

The Lord saw that the people were truly sorry. He said, "Moses, you have been faithful to Me. Because of you I will do as you ask. I will even allow you to see Me from far off. No man can ever be allowed to see My face. Carve two more tablets from stone like the ones you broke. Come alone upon the mountain, I will write the laws again on the tablets for you. I will be merciful and forgive the Hebrews and I will go before them into the land of Canaan."

When the cloud had gone, Moses got stones and began to carve two tablets just like the ones God had given him. Early the next morning he was ready to go back to the top of the mountain as God had ordered.

NEWS NOTES

Stony Hill Church
Announces Mid-Week Survival

Stony Free Will Baptist Church, Middlesex, has survived modern times. They have a range of 60—80 members in attendance at their services. They want to be a light for their community and show others that to have Christ is gain.

Surprise Birthday Dinner
For the Rev. Clifton Rice

The members of Westside Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, recently honored their pastor, the Rev. Clifton Rice, at a surprise birthday dinner in the Blue Room of the K & W Cafeteria. The beautifully decorated birthday cake was made by Mrs. Adeline Gray, a member of the church. Mr. Rice was presented an engraved silver tray. A wonderful dinner, as well as fellowship, was enjoyed by all.

Community Church
Announces Revival



Community Free Will Baptist Church, Weldon, will hold a revival beginning February 19 and will continue through February 25. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. On Sunday night the Limestone Trio, from the Beaulaville area, will be featuring special music.

The pastor, the Rev. T. C. Farmer, will be giving the messages each evening. Special singing will be featured throughout the week by local groups. Everyone is invited to attend.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. T. C. Farmer would like to announce the change of his address. His old address was Route 2, Box 786, Beaufort, North Carolina. His present address is 1506 Washington Avenue, Weldon, North Carolina 27890; telephone, 536-4270. He request that all mail from denominational enterprises be forwarded to this address.

The next meeting of the Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will be held February 20 at 10 a. m. at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden.

VBS LEADERS, TEACHERS, WORKERS . . .

TWO WORKSHOPS COMING

Precious Are His Promises

Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School theme
Date: Saturday, April 1, 1978
Registration: 9:30 a. m.
Place:
Free Will Baptist Church
East Third Street
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

Jesus God's Wonderful Gift

Standard Vacation Bible School theme
Date: Friday, March 3, 1978
Time: 7:30 p. m.
Place:
Free Will Baptist Press
811 North Lee Street
Ayden, North Carolina 28513
Refreshments

You're Invited

Div. Soc.
F857w



DURHAM, N. C.

Wrecked cars and lives, sometimes caused by that ''one more for the road''. . . .

the free will baptist

FEBRUARY 15, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



Tommy Manning
Editor

Editorial . . .

Cover Photo by Ed Carlin

LIKE SO MANY WASTED LIVES
(An adaption of a former editorial: February, 1970)

Mountains of wrecked cars and trucks have become an accepted part of the everyday scene. Look at these wrecks. You find them piled one upon another in junk yards. They sit beside houses and flower gardens and in vacant lots.

No one is too aghast anymore at the screeching of tires and the crash of broken glass. No one is too queasy anymore at the sight of gaping wounds and spurting blood. No one turns around twice anymore at the sound of a siren blazing the path for a rescue truck which is rushing some poor, seriously or critically injured soul to a hospital emergency room. No one takes a second look at a car being hauled off down the highway, a monument to wasted money—and many times, destroyed lives. It happens so often that it is not considered worthy of special attention.

Thus, we have gotten accustomed to wrecks; and we have conditioned ourselves to the consequences of these wrecks: the tormented cries and the writhing of the bruised and the maimed. Everything moves so fast, and all too often an abrupt stop is caused by a head-on or a side-swipe collision. Screams pierce the air; and after the impact, there is a period of stillness and deathly silence. Then there is the buzz of excited voices, agonizing moans, anguished cries, the ache of broken bones, and the stabbing, burning pain of torn flesh.

The reason? There are many. Youth takes hold of the wheel too soon, and old age lets go of the wheel too late; there is no time to get somewhere fast; there are sleepy eyes and slow reactions, caused by that "one for the road"; there is the desire to see how fast the thing will go; and then, there is just plain carelessness.

Twisted steel and twisted bodies, broken glass and broken bones, punctured gas tanks and punctured lungs, leaking radiators and leaking veins, scraped paint and scraped skin, cracked frames and cracked skulls: these make the picture. Frequently the car is marked off as a total loss, and so is the life!

Yet, one does not have to be in a wreck to make a mess of his life. He can live quietly and serenely, never roaring down the highway at a hundred miles an hour. He can live comfortably (and perhaps passively) in his little house on the hill and still make a wreck of his life.

Nothing is ever wrecked unless it is used improperly. True, our cars may be wrecked through no fault of our own and because of some unpreventable outside force—but this is not so with our lives! The wrecking of our lives is **always** our fault. Outward and inward pressures may contribute toward our making a mess of things, but if we "wreck" ourselves, we are to blame. If we live too fast; if we "drive" too hard, and in the wrong direction, we are almost certain to wreck our lives and lose our souls!

Fortunately, a wrecked car can be used again. It can be melted down and applied toward the making of a beautiful, new, shiny, serviceable vehicle. Likewise, a wrecked life can be remolded by the hand of Almighty God into a beautiful, new, changed creation. The danger is, however, that too often we allow the wrecks to rust out completely before we consider "remaking" them.

Someday, when you're passing a junk yard, look over there at the pile of sad, broken cars, crying their silent message. Look at them lying there, still and unattended—like so many wrecked and wasted lives.

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FEBRUARY 15, 1978
Volume 93 Number 7

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Smithfield, New Bern, and **Wilson,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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The first of a series of . . .

A CRITICAL ROLE FOR THE PROTESTANT MINISTER

by De W. Eakes

Introduction

THE role of the minister as a family man is one of the most critical roles for the Protestant pastor. Within this role, a minister can find unmeasurable satisfaction and strength for his ministry. If this role is neglected, all of his other accomplishments may prove to be fruitless and made of no effect. The problems and responsibilities of each part of this role will be discussed jointly. The conclusion will consist of the relating and co-ordinating of this role of the minister to the other roles of the ministry.

The Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant Church have very diverse views concerning the marriage of ministers. Protestant Churches have generally believed, by presupposition if not by stated practice, the advantages of marriage far outweigh the disadvantages. Paul comments on the minister's family life. In 1 Timothy 3:2 he states, the minister should be husband of one wife and in Verses 4 and 5 he further states (NASV), "He must be one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity, but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the Church of God?" The Protestant idea is that the successful Christian husband and father is better qualified to be a pastor. Quite naturally, this would open doors with the congregation in regards to marital and family problems. Therefore, it is easily comprehensible that the successful Christian marriage and successful Christian home is one of the vital essentials to a pastor's successful ministry to the church and community.

In the Protestant Church, marriage is a matter of choice. If as the great Apostle Paul, a minister deems marriage as a hindrance or unnecessary for himself, the Protestant Church allows him this freedom. It he chooses marriage, the minister must seriously consider its ensuing obligations.

Realizing the importance of his role as a family man, the minister who chooses to marry must regard his obligations in this area as sacredly as he envisions the other obligations of the ministry.

> "This in turn, means that he will dedicate a just share of his time and attention to his marriage and home. God does not expect a minister to neglect his family obligations to fulfill his obligations to his calling. The former are included in the latter. The problem of the pastor is to devise a way to prevent the two sets of obligations from conflicting with each other."[1]

There are several particular areas in the role of the minister as family man that will be considered.

This paper was originally done as a term paper for a course entitled "The Pastor's Multiple Ministry" in 1974 while I was a student at Southeastern Baptist Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina. By request of the program chairman it was presented at a meeting of the J. C. Griffin Brotherhood and suggested that it be submitted as a series of articles in the "Free Will Baptist". Documentation is given where other sources have been used. Much of this material has come from my brief experience as a husband of eleven years, as a minister for twelve years and as a father for six years. I am not so naive as to believe that I have all the answers on the subject under consideration. Please accept this as a sharing experience of one who is still struggling to keep these two vital roles in their proper perspectives and in a harmonious relationship.

Fulfilling Family Responsibilities

This area of the minister's life is undoubtedly the one which suffers the greatest neglect. This is tragic. The common cry of woe on the minister's lips is "I don't have time." Too many men get so tied up with other heavy responsibilities that they don't have time to spend with their families. This is a problem all professional persons share and is not peculiar to the ministry. The problem is one of organization and budgeting of your time. It is one of assigning priorities. Deluded and blind indeed, is the minister who does not place time with his family high on his list of priorities. I would go so far as to say it should be at the very top of his list of responsibilities!

Due to the nature of the minister's work, Sundays are one of his busiest days. This is a day most families can enjoy together. Even at worship, it is rare and a refreshing experience for the minister to worship in the pew with his family. There are some ways of easing this tension. Laity Sundays, Youth Sundays and vacations which include weekends can provide the minister and his family an opportunity to worship together as a family in the pew.

Most Protestant Churches by practice, if not stated principle, prefer a family man as pastor. In so doing, they also have the responsibility of giving the pastor due consideration in fulfilling his obligations to his family. Many churches give their pastor one or two days off each week. Others allow the pastor to take off a certain amount of time each week without designating a special day. The pastor can work in extra hours with his family through careful planning. Sometimes my family accompanies me in hospital visitation. I leave them one-half block from the hospital at a shopping center, do my hospital visitation and then join them for lunch. The minister can and should plan in advance for special days (i. e. birthdays, anniversary, etc.) with his family. This requires the entire family working together and must be carefully planned. This is highly rewarding for all concerned and worth the effort.

The Minister and Marriage

We do not consider marriage a sacrament as does the Roman Catholic

Church. We do hold the Christian view of marriage as being replete with sacred obligation. The Christian pastor as teacher must teach the Christian view of marriage. As family man, he must also practice it. We hold marriage as instituted of God for the welfare and happiness of man. Genesis 2:24 gives us this statement: "For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh." This account teaches us marriage is ordained of God, that it is a bodily and spiritual union of man and woman and that it is the strongest of human bonds, surpassing even the relationship of "blood kin." Christ further strengthened this view by His quotation of this account concerning His discourse on marriage in Matthew 19:5 and 6 where He made the significant addition, "What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate."

Christianity Today (June 1969) has a significant discussion of marriage problems and possible solutions for the minister and his wife as follows:

"1. The minister is likely to have a strong, aggressive personality. He is more used to creating and promoting ideas and programs than to accepting and implementing ideas of others.

2. He is deeply committed to his work and gives it his best time and energy. Other responsibilities tend to take second, third, or even fourth place.

3. The pastor is constantly giving his attention and energies to others. He may use his home as a refuge to the point that his wife infers she is not capable of comprehending his problems and ideas.

4. The pastor feels his time is not his own. He is often gone from home and his income doesn't allow him to offer many of the conveniences that make family living easier.

5. The pastor and his family live a fishbowl existence in which the normal tensions of family life tend to be magnified.

6. The pastor's wife has no pastor besides her husband.

7. Tension may arise because the pastor's wife sees his unending patience with others but seeks in vain for the same patience in his dealings with those in his own home.

8. The pastor spends a good deal of time with couples who are having problems and his wife may sometimes fear that the women he counsels are transferring their affection to him.

9. The pastor is in the spotlight most of the time. He receives spiritual and emotional rewards as he carries out his work. His sense of fulfillment may be much greater than his wife's because of his firsthand experience in witnessing the blessing of God and the results of his labor.

10. Men who make good pastors usually choose to marry women with strong and sensitive personalities with conviction and enthusiasm. A gulf may develop unless continual precaution is taken building bridges between these two strong personalities.[2]

Surely, I am not so naive as to believe that 13 years of marriage in the manse is sufficient to gain all insight into these problems. It is long enough, however, to recognize the validity of each problem as listed. It is also long enough to appreciate the suggestions for preventing or correcting these situations. These suggestions are as follows:

"1. Have regular times for discussion and sharing, carried out on schedule as nearly as possible.

2. Husband and wife should pray for each other. They will find that so long as they can pray openly and honestly together they can remain sensitive to each other's feelings and attitudes.

3. Husband and wife should read and discuss books together. This helps them respect each other's ideas and feelings.

4. A good stimulant to communication is for the wife to evaluate her husband's sermon. The degree to which she remains constructive and be open, as well as honest, will determine the usefulness of this kind of exchange.

5. Periodically, the minister and his wife should take trips together. This may be for a few hours during the day or evening or even for a couple of days. This allows them to give their undivided attention to each other . . . . something they can seldom do.

6. So far as is possible the pastor should share with his wife the events of the day and seek to relate the goals the two of them have set for their ministry together.

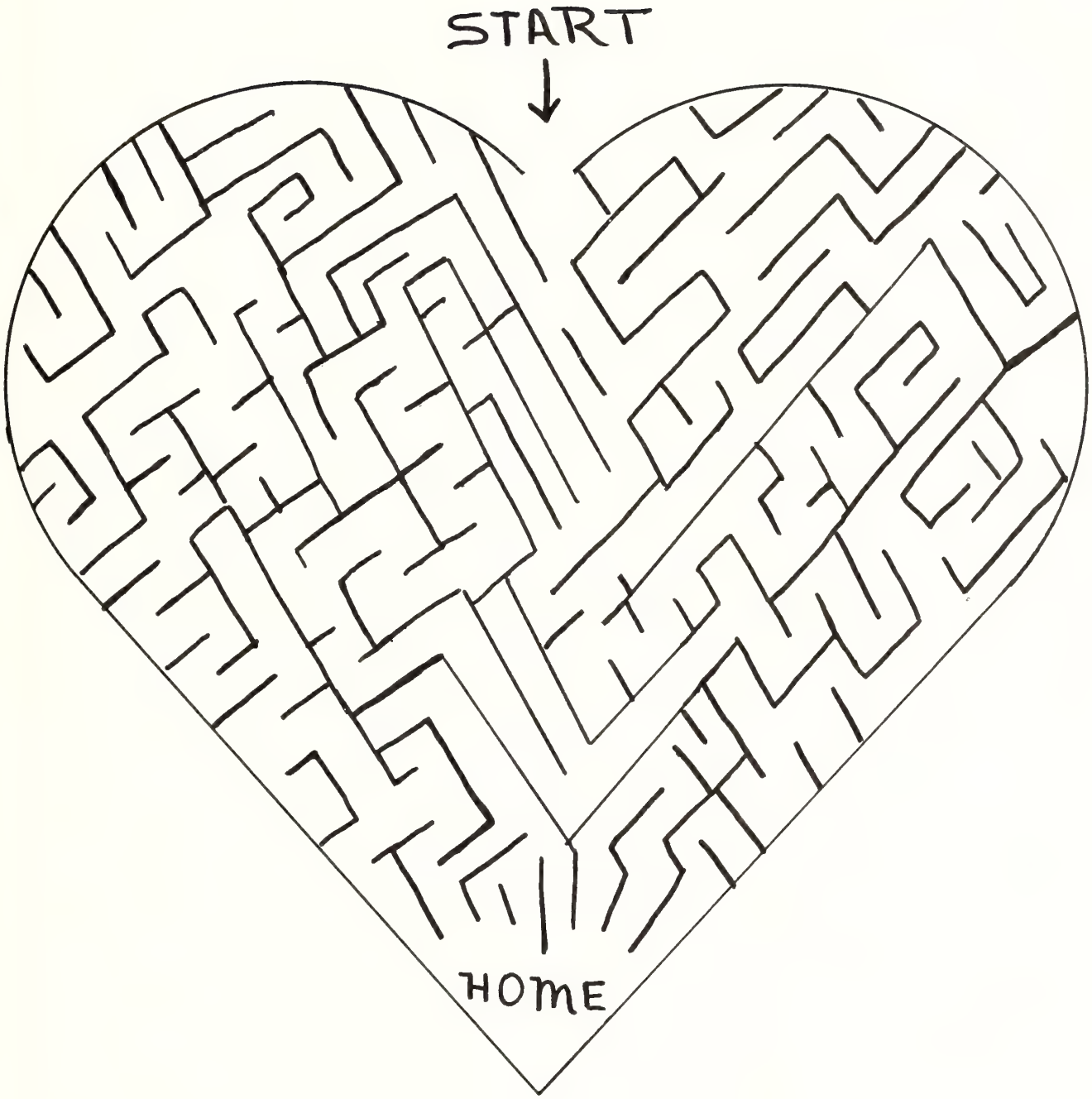
7. Reassurance of love for each other must be both spoken and shown. Confidence in each other as husband and wife can cover a multitude of shortcomings.[3]

A minister's marriage is not made in heaven, although, it is sealed there. It, most definitely, has to be lived on earth. The forming of a happy, strong and adequate relationship between husband and wife is a continuing project. There are no easy, guaranteed rules and guidelines. The degree of success the minister has here is a good indication of his effectiveness in his entire ministry for Christ. The starting point is mutual faith, agreement and determination, regardless of the sacrifice required, to achieve a happy, fruitful, and fulfilling marriage in the manse. If the pastor is to successfully teach the Christian view of marriage, he must maintain a Christian marriage.

Sex is very important in the minister's marriage as he teaches others its importance in their marriages. Sex is ordained of God and created by God for man's procreating, enjoyment and fulfillment and for complete union with each other as man and wife. The minister must develop a Christian view of sex beginning at home. This is a necessity for his own marriage and home to function as pastor in helping others understand how to view sex in achieving marital harmony.

The Bible does not explicitly set forth a Christian view of sex. We must develop a Christian view of sex through its teaching on each subjects. The Bible's teachings regarding marriage, dedication of the body to God, stewardship, morality, sin, the nurture and discipline of children and social obligations will draw us to the conclusion of a Christian view of sex. Sex must be seen as a natural, normal, God-created function of the body. It is not evil in itself. It is evil only when abused and misused in a way contrary to God's purpose for man. Sex must be seen as more than a physical biological act. It must be thought of and experienced as more than passionate love. It engulfs intellectual, cultural, physical, emotional, spiritual, and social implications. We must realize sex is ordained and sanctioned within the marriage bonds alone. It is a part of the family institution. The minister must be careful to safeguard this use of sex and thus by example, as well as precept, teach it to his people. The minister cannot compromise in this important part of marriage.

(Continued on Page 14)



"Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends"

(John 15:13).

Mount Olive College

AN OPEN LETTER

Dear Pastors and Friends,

Even though this is a form letter, we hope that you will regard it as personal and give us the benefit of your response.

One of our goals at Mount Olive College is to serve the Church and in particular the Free Will Baptist denomination. We want to design certain curricula to meet the needs of students who will in the future be able to render service to the local churches.

We are now studying a curriculum for persons who are interested in the field of Christian Education in the local church. By offering a minimum of three courses in this area, along with other courses in religion and the basic liberal arts curriculum at Mount Olive, we believe that the student will have a good foundation in Christian Education that will enable him to earn a major in this field at a senior college or perhaps help the student to consider this field as a major in seminary.

Other persons who are not now in college could also enroll in these courses on a part-time basis in order to prepare themselves for more effective work as Sunday School superintendents, teachers, or youth leaders in the local church.

Still others who may be preparing to teach in the public schools could take any of these courses as a means of becoming better teachers and lay leaders in local churches.

We need your help in determining the need for this type of curriculum at Mount Olive College. Please read the proposed course descriptions on the enclosed sheet, fill out the questionnaire, and return it to us as early as possible. Your reply will be given careful consideration as a part of our study.

Sincerely yours,
Michael Pelt, Chairman
Department of Religion

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

An Introduction to Christian Education—A study of the history, philosophy, and objectives of Christian education with a strong vocational emphasis. A six-week field work component is planned.

The Educational Ministry of the Church—A sequel to the above course. Topics include a theology of the church, the organization of the local church, functions of its leaders, and the educational program of a church in its ministry to children, youth, and adults. A field work experience is planned.

Seminar and Practicum in Christian Education—Combination of classroom and on-site experiences for those intending immediate or eventual entry into the field of Christian Education. Attention will be given to reading representative works in the area of Christian Education, as well as working extensively in an in-depth situation at a chosen level—children, youth, or adult.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Sampson County on Sunday, February 19, at the 10 a. m. and 11 a. m. worship services.

The Rev. C. Felton Godwin is pastor.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Subject: Preparation of leaders in a Program of Christian Education in the Local Church.

1. How do you feel about the need of any or all of the courses described above?

_____

_____

2. Do you think that a minister or layman interested in Christian education would be likely to enroll in one or more of these courses if they were offered at Mount Olive College at a convenient time? _____

3. Does your church recognize the need for a trained Director of Christian Education?

Part -time? _____ Full-time? _____

4. What level of training would your church want a Director of Christian Education to have?

(Check one)

a. a college degree _____
b. a college degree with a major or minor in Christian Education _____
c. a seminary degree (M.Div) with a concentration of courses in Christian Education _____
d. a seminary degree with a major in Religious Education (M. R. E.) _____

5. If you felt that such a need existed, would you encourage your church to take steps toward the employment of a Director of Christian Education? _____

6. Estimate how long you think it may be before your church takes this step.

_____

7. If it is not practical for your church to employ a Director of Christian Education, would you encourage active laypersons to enroll in courses in Christian Education?

_____

Please return this questionnaire as soon as possible to Dr. Michael Pelt, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365. Your cooperation in this study is greatly appreciated.

NEW CREATIONS PRESENT PROGRAM

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of testimony and song at Rhodes Friends church in Goldsboro on Sunday, February 19, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Frank Sculley is pastor.

CHRISTIAN EXCELLENCE AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

If I could have but one wish for Mount Olive College it would be that it be a **Christian** College. There is nothing in education or in life that is more important than knowing, loving and serving God. Unless God's purpose for the College is fulfilled, nothing else will ultimately matter. This truth is well expressed in a quotation over the doorway of the Cathedral of Milan:

> "All that pleases is but for a moment. All that troubles is but for a moment. Only what is eternal is important."

If education prepares a student only for this life, it has failed him at the point of his greatest need, and that need is to prepare him for his eternal destiny, which is to meet God.

A Christian college must be a **good** college. We cannot offer to God something that is inferior, for God never called anyone to perform a poor quality of work for Him. The educational standards of a Christian college must be the highest and best the human mind is capable of attaining.

Our aspirations at Mount Olive College were well expressed by the Apostle Paul: "And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent" (Philippians 1:9, 10a).

TREASURER OF CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE ILL

Mr. Harvey Hinson, treasurer of the Cape Fear Conference is a patient in Duke Hospital. He had major surgery on January 18. His address is Reed Ward 3020, Duke Hospital, Durham, North Carolina 27710.

He asks to be remembered in your prayers. His home address is Route 2, Dunn, North Carolina 28334.



Special Moments

Dear Readers,

One of the most profound biblical truths we must learn and accept in life is that "our timing" is not necessarily "our Lord's timing."

The expression of interest from the readers was insufficient to merit the publication of SPECIAL MOMENTS as a hardback book. The manuscript is being returned by the publisher.

I appreciate each one who either wrote or called the Press and expressed your interest. If there is a change of events at some later time, you will be contacted.

Again, my personal thanks. God bless you.

Maggie

Coming Events . . .

February 20—Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet 10 a. m., Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden.

February 25—Western District Youth Fellowship, Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, near Clayton, 7:30 p. m.

March 18—Western District Youth Fellowship Spring Convention, Mount Olive College Chapel Mount Olive, 9:30 a. m.

March 18—Eastern District Youth Convention, Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pink Hill

March 18—Central District Youth Meeting, Saturday at 10 A. M., Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville

MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Edgar Benton announces that he is in good standing with the Western Conference and is now available for full or part-time pastoral work. Any church desiring his services may contact him by writing the Rev. Edgar Benton, P. O. Box 395A, Fremont, North Carolina 27830; or phone 242-5283 after 6 p. m.

AN OPEN LETTER TO FREE WILL BAPTISTS

On January 24, 1978, I resigned as a member of the Board of Foreign Missions. As you know, I became Executive Director of the Children's Home in July 1977. My new position consumes all my time and energy. I was into my second term on the Foreign Mission Board. Serving on this Board has been the highlight of my 14 years in the ministry of our church. God has opened many doors for Free Will Baptists on the foreign fields. The gravity of this ministry demands the full attention of its Board and Director and it is for this reason that I felt I must vacate my post.

The next several years are going to be exciting ones in the mission field. God is moving across the pages of history in a manner that cannot possibly go unnoticed by all mankind. Free Will Baptists have a unique contribution to make to the ongoing World Missions program. Our Board of Foreign Missions has accepted this challenge to spread the Gospel to the ends of the Earth. I encourage our people to continue their loyal support of our missionaries, our Mission Board and Director in their giving and in their prayers.

Respectfully,
J. Stewart Humphrey

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Can you give Scripture for the claim that Jesus Christ is going to rule on earth?

Answer: Yes, there are those passages of Scripture to be found in the Bible that clearly teach me that our Lord Jesus Christ will come to this earth with all the heavenly host, taking vengeance on all that have forgotten God, He will come to the Mount of Olives to fight against all the kings of the nations, will slay them with the breath of His mouth, and will set up His flawless Kingdom and will reign 1000 years. "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first" (1 Thessalonians 4:16); "Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel" (Psalm 2:6-9). Zion is Jerusalem.

"Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this" (Isaiah 9:7); and "Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment" (Isaiah 32:1); also "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth" (Jeremiah 23:5); "And there was given him dominion is glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed" (Daniel 7:14).

Also, "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass" (Zechariah 9:9); compare, "Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him" (Matthew 2:2); "Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass" (Matthew 21:5); "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34) and "And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:33).

"Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel" (John 1:49); "Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice." (John 18:37); "For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subjected unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all" (1 Corinthian 15:25-28); "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years" (Revelation 20:6).

George H. Sandison in his book 1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered gives the following answer to a similar question:

"The passage in Revelation 11:15 has its parallel in Daniel 2:44. It is the visible setting up of heaven's sovereignty over the earth—that sovereignty which was rejected before by the world's rulers. This done, the distinction of the worldly and spiritual shall cease. The whole earth, with all of its affairs, will at once be worldly and Christian, but worldly in the transformed sense, all being ordered in accordance with the divine will and in perfect recognition of and obedience to God's laws. But it should not be forgotten that the kingdom has it first beginnings in the hearts of God's true children here and now. This is repeatedly emphasized by Jesus in his talks with his disciples. These beginnings, though only a faint foreshadowing of the ultimate development of the kingdom, are nevertheless real and their earnet cultivation is a duty laid upon all believers. Christ ushered in the kingdom; his followers, like a little faithful flock, maintain it perseveringly and we look forward to the day, in the fulness of time, when it shall be proclaimed in divine majesty and power over the whole earth."

Then I would suggest that one interested in a correct scriptural answer to this question give time and thought to what is said on the subject by Dr. William Evans in his book **The Great Doctrines of the Bible**, including looking up and reading all the scriptures.

"The Millennium means the thousand years reign of Christ upon the earth (Revelation 20:1-4). Some think that it is the continuation of the **Kingdom Age** broken off by the unbelief of the Jews at the time of the Apostles.

The Millennium begins with the coming of Christ with His saints; with the revelation of Christ after the great tribulation (Matthew 24:29, 30); at the close of the seventieth week of Daniel. For illustration, see Rev. 19:11-14; Dan. 7:21, 22; Zech. 14:3-9.

Then comes the destruction of Antichrist, the binding of Satan, and the destruction of the enemies of God's people (Rev. 19:20; 20:1-3, 10).

The Judgment of the Living Nations (Matt. 25).

The conversion and missionary activity of the Jews (Zech. 8:13-23; cf. Acts. 15:14-17). Then, we may have a converted world, but not now, nor in this

age; Israel, not the Church, then concerned.

The nature of the Millennium:

It is a Theocracy: Jesus Christ Himself is the King (Jer. 23:5; Luke 1:30-33). The Apostles will, doubtless, reign with Christ over the Jews (Isa. 66; Matt. 19:28); the Church, over the Gentile nations (Luke 19:11-19; Heb. 2:6, 7).

The capital city will be Jerusalem (Isa. 2:1-4). Pilgrimages will be made to the Holy City (Zech. 14:16).

The reign of Christ will be one of righteousness and equity (Isa. 11:4; Psa. 98:9).

A renovated earth (Rom. 8:19-21; Isa. 65:17; c. 35).

The events closing the Millennium are apostasy and rebellion (Rev. 20:7-9); the destruction of Satan (Rev. 20:10); the Great White Throne judgment (Rev. 20:11-15); a new heaven and a new earth (Rev. 21 and 22).

NEWS NOTES

Weldon Church Announces New Pastor



The Rev. T. C. Farmer Jr. is the new pastor at Community Free Will Baptist Church in Weldon. The Farmer family are, left to right, Angela, Mrs. Farmer, Allen, the Rev. Farmer, and Tammy.

On January 8, a new pastor assumed duties at Community Free Will Baptist Church. The Rev. Thomas C. (T.C.) Farmer Jr. came to Weldon from Otway Free Will Baptist Church in Beaufort. He previously served as assistant pastor at Mill Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Johnsonville, South Carolina, and as pastor of Florence, South Carolina Free Will Baptist Mission.

He is a Florence, High School graduate, and attended Florence Bible Institute there.

He and his wife, the former Geneva Poston of Pamplico, South Carolina have five children, Andy Farmer and Mrs. Pamela F. Hartfield, both of Johnsonville, South Carolina; and Tammy, age 14; Angela, 13; and Allen, 10; who live with them.

Pee Dee Youth Selects New Officers



The new officers of the Pee Dee Youth are as follows: From left to right, Davey Hester, denominational enterprise; Gary Cribb, reporter; Norman Spurling, foreign missions; Mark McPherson, president; Tommy Simmons, vice-president. Bottom—Billie Jo Ransom, benevolence; Tina Babson, parliamentarian; Becky Ward, treasurer; Tracy Davis, home missions; and Donna Cartrette, secretary.

MEMORIAL GIFTS TO CAMP VANDEMERE

In memory of Mr. H. L. Rawls, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Godwin, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Casey, Mrs. Joyce Casey Ritter, Mr. and Mrs. John Molan, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon J. Daniels Jr., Mrs. Elvira Daniels, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Daniels, Mr. and Mrs. Earlie Lupton, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brinson, Mrs. Ruth Lee, Arapahoe Women's Auxiliary, Arapahoe Sunday School class number 13, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hott, Mrs. J. B. Ingle, Mr. and Mrs. Mack Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. B. G. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Schofell, and South Norfolk Christian Church.

In memory of Mr. Oscar Roberts, by: Mr. and Mrs. W. McCotter.

WE BELIEVE:

1. That there is only one God who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the Universe; that His eternal existence is in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; that all three are equal, but distinct persons. They are the divine Trinity.

2. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God; that He was born of the Virgin Mary; that He died for man's redemption; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as our intercessor.

3. That both, the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, were given by inspiration of God, and that they only constitute the infallible rule of faith and practice.

4. That man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation and stands guilty before God and separate from Him.

5. That is the privilege of all men to be saved; that God desires the salvation of all; that the gospel invites everyone; that the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

6. That the human will is free and self-controlled; that is is possible for a person who has been saved by divine grace to make shipwreck of his faith and become lost. The person (believer) who through grace perseveres unto the end of life has promise of eternal salvation.

7. That sanctification is initial at regeneration and continues progressively through the Christian experience, becoming final and complete in heaven.

8. That there are three gospel ordinances to be perpetuated under the gospel teaching: baptism by immersion, the Lord's Supper, and washing of the saints' feet.

9. That tithing is God's financial plan for supporting the work of the church here on earth.

10. That our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who ascended on high, and sits at the right hand of God, will come again; that there will be a resurrection of all men at the last day; that they which are saved will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they which are lost unto the resurrection of damnation; that the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." This is the final judgment.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19
Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 2:1-4

HIS GREATEST SERMON

Many years ago a farmer had an unusually fine crop of grain. Just a few days before it was ready to harvest, there came a terrible hail and wind storm. The entire crop was demolished. After the storm was over, the farmer, with his little son, went out on the porch. The little boy looked at what was formerly the beautiful field of wheat, and then with tears in his eyes he looked up at his dad, expecting to hear words of despair. All at once his father started to sing softly, "Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee." Years after, the little boy, grown to manhood, said, "That was the greatest sermon I ever heard." The farmer lost a grain crop, but who knows but what that was the turning point in the boy's life. He saw the faith of a godly father in practice.

PRAYER THOUGHT

You are preaching a sermon each day. Be careful to every act for you never know who might be patterning his life after yours.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20
Scripture Reading—Amos 5:8

"I OWN EVERYTHING!"

Dr. George W. Truett was entertained on one occasion in the home of a wealthy oil man in Texas. After the dinner the man took him up to the roof of his house and indicated huge fields of oil derricks, and said, "Dr. Truett, that's all mine. I came to this country twenty-five years ago penniless, and now I own everything as far as you can see in that direction." Then he turned to the opposite direction and indicated waving fields of grain and said again, "It's all mine. I own everything as far as you can see in that direction." Then he turned to the east, and pointed to huge herds of cattle and said again, "It's all mine, everything as far as you can see in that direction is mine." One final time he turned toward the west and pointed to a great virgin forest, and said again, "It's all mine. Twenty-five years ago I was penniless, but I worked hard and saved, and today I own everything as far as you can see in this direction, that direction, that direction, and this direction." He paused for the expected praise, but to his astonishment it didn't come. Dr. Truett laid a hand lovingly on his shoulder, pointed upward and said, "My friend, how much do you own in that direction?" The man dropped his head in shame and said, "I never thought of that."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Earthy possessions may be here today and disappear tomorrow. Our heavenly possessions are invincible.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21
Scripture Reading—Hebrews 6:10

WHAT IMPRESSED HER CREDITOR

A lady of my acquaintance told me the following experience. She said: "I signed a note for a friend for a small sum of money, but as I had very little, and am a widow with my own living to make, it was a large amount to me. This so-called friend 'skipped' without paying, so I had to pay. Just about this time I was saved, and, in the joy of knowing Jesus Christ, wanted everything in my life to be right for Him. It happened that the money was owing to a Jewish lawyer. I went to see him and told him my circumstances, promising the money would be paid each week as I earned it. I also told him I had just accepted Christ as my Saviour, and for Him, I desired my life to shine. When the last installment of that money was paid that Jew handed back part of the whole sum, saying: "I have had much dealing with people who said they were followers of Christ. Until now, I have never been much impressed."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Live as God would have us live. If we do this it will not be necessary to verbally inform others of our faith.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
Scripture Reading—2 Peter 3:18

BETTER THAN GOLD

"I shall give that to the missionaries," said Billy; and he put his fat hand on a little gold dollar, as he counted the contents of his money-box.

"Why?" Susie asked.

" 'Cause it's gold. Don't you know the Wise Men brought Jesus gifts of gold? The missionaries work for Jesus."

Stillness for a little bit, then Susie said, "The gold all belongs to Him anyhow. Don't you think it would be better to go right to Him and give Him just what He asks for?"

"What's that?" Billy asked.

Susie repeated softly, " 'My son, give Me thine heart.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

It is true that everything is God's creation and belongs to Him. In making people more like Himself He allows them to have minds of their own. Too often they forget to whom they belong and to whom their allegiance should be directed.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
Scripture Reading—Psalm 106:1

THANK GOD THROUGH YOUR OCCUPATION

"How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child." These words of Shakespeare apply to the more to God's children—to us. In every conceivable way, we openly insult God. Our talents, our friends, our material wealth all draw their share of thanks. But the God who gave us both the lives and His is ignored. Do you have money? God is the giver. Do you have ability? Thank God for it.

The Apostle Paul would have us thank God always. Surely he knew that men must work and concentrate on their vocations; surely he knew a person cannot remain on his knees every minute of the day. But Paul knew that a Christian is a child of God. Therefore all our actions should be to God's glory. "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Colossians 3:23). Are you a farmer, merchant, housewife? Whatever your occupation, praise God through it.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should thank God for giving us

the opportunity to work for Him in all walks of life.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 3:15

"IT WILL LIGHT YOU HOME"

A minister went far into a backwoods settlement to hold a meeting and it was necessary that he return late in the very dark night. A woodsman provided him with a torch of pitch-pine wood. The minister, never having seen anything of the kind, said, "It will soon burn out." "It will light you home," answered the other. "The wind may blow it out," said the preacher. "It will light you home, was again the answer. "But what if it should rain?" "It will light you home," was the answer a third time. And, contrary to the minister's fears, the torch did last him all the way home. The Word of God is a torch given into the hands of each of us. What if it rains? What if the wind blows? What if the fires of persecution come? If you will hold the torch high it will light you home.

PRAYER THOUGHT

If you will believe in God and follow Him, He will make life much brighter for you.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25
Scripture Reading—Matthew 4:23

"THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE"

Remember the man on Skid Row is not different in kind from the rest of us. He is merely worse in degree. On Skid Row we see fallen man at his dismal worst. In the better neighborhoods we see him at his polished best, but he is the same man for all his disguise. In the gutter we find him chained by dope and drink and dirt. On the avenue we find him bound by pride and greed and lust. To God there is no difference. He sees beyond appearances and He knows what is in every man. His remedy for every man is the same, a new birth and the impartation of a new kind of life.

The gospel is the power of God operating toward the moral and spiritual transformation of man. And it works! Thousands will tesify that it does. No man who wants to climb up out of his past and find a new and better life should overlook the gospel. It is God's way out, and there is no other.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Never overlook the gospel, because what it says is the truth; and we should all live by it.

Devotions used by permission *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

DEVELOPING SOUL POWER

by Woodrow Hill

Many years ago a Dutch scientist concluded that certain insects in his native Holland would reveal greater potential in a friendlier environment. He took specimens of some which crawled under the damp and foggy skies of his country and transferred them to a friendly tropical climate in South America.

Placing them in the rich tropic atmosphere of a new environment, and feeding them a more nourishing quality of food than they were accustomed, he watched them improve in strength, sensitivity, and quality of existence. Their subdued tints turned into brilliant colors, and in a period of five years they had doubled in size. More significantly, the insects which crawled in Holland spread their wings to the air and began to nestle in the hearts of flowers, and to feed on the nectar which they found there.

While food and environment are contributing factors in the development of physical potentials, there are also spiritual qualities which marvelously contribute to the development of the soul. God has endowed us with the power of choice in making such growth possible, and no greater tragedy can occur than for this developmental opportunity to be ignored. One who has spent his life in the spiritual bogs of selfishness and hate can, through the power of Godly choice, move into the tropical warmth of love and hope. That is what our Creator wants to happen to every individual, and he will wholeheartedly cooperate with those who make the first step in this direction.

The power of the word of God is overwhelming, and that makes the reading of it important. It will change the course of the person's life who seriously studies it and seeks to follow its truths. The power of prayer, added to the serious reading of the Scriptures, will move one into the warmth and comfort of a previously unbelievable quality in life. The twin plagues of hate and fear will gradually diminish, being replaced with hope, and one will soon discover that a miracle has been wrought in his life through the power of the Holy Spirit. When this happens, he finds himself wanting to "stay tuned for part two of another world" Life improves with this spiritual unfolding, and great satisfaction comes with the knowledge that one's eternal citizenship is no longer in this world, but his residence is in "an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (2 Corinthians 5:1).

Practicing the presence of God and being conscious of his power in us is essential if one is to attain his greatest potential. Most people live dwarf lives simply because they refuse to spread their wings and soar into the more meaningful levels of existence. Everyone should take seriously the counsel of Jesus who admonished: "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4).—**The Biblical Recorder**

Churches and Ministers Available

God's spirit is still strong in the hearts of His willing workers. He has called two men from among the body of the Eastwood Free Will Baptist Church in Fayetteville to join the ministry. John Adcox and Carl Mees have been examined by the ordaining council and licenses have been presented by the Rev. W. O. Lassiter, pastor, during a recent service.

John Adcox has been with the Eastwood church since it was established 14 years ago. He has been a deacon for many years and has had an active part on the leadership of the church. He has also been very active in the music department. Carl Mees is active, working with the youth and musical program.

Both are available for supply work and may be contacted by phoning 488-8942, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Kings Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, located about 6 miles, from Farmville is looking for a full-time pastor. Anyone interested should contact Mrs. Ronnie E. Little at Route 2, Box 347-C, Farmville, North Carolina 27828; or phone 753-3217 after 5 p. m. during the week.

the Sunday School LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For February 26

TRUSTING IN GOD

I. INTRODUCTION

The strong affirmation of faith that we find in Psalm 23 is a personal testimony, a song of confidence in God. Obviously the writer was one who had experienced some of the bitterness of life, perhaps one who had suffered deeply, for he spoke of the valley of the shadow of death. He knew what it meant to have enemies lying in wait to destroy him. Yet the psalm breathes confidence in every line, without any misgivings or doubts whatsoever. The writer had been through many varied experiences of life, but never had there been a time that the Lord had not been near.

On the basis of the above, this writer feels that the psalm is a song of David composed out of the mature experience of his manhood, not in his youth. We are not unmindful, of the fact that David, as a boy, was himself a shepherd on the hills around Bethlehem. We know that he was conscious at that time, of God's presence with him (1 Samuel 17:37), and that even then he was "the sweet singer of Israel." But, as we have noted, Psalm 23 reflects a confidence born of years of trust. The shepherd boy whom God took and made to be king over God's people never forgot his humble beginnings, nor was he ashamed of them. Now he could look back over a life that at times had been turbulent and see that, even as he at one time had tended the flock entrusted to his care, so God had been as a shepherd to him, all the way.

It is not strange that Psalm 23 is known as "The Shepherd Psalm." Some commentators trace the shepherd motif throughout the entire six verses. However, such interpretation seems strained, for one scarcely conceives of a table being prepared for sheep. Nor do we find sheep dwelling in the house of their Lord. The second part of the psalm indicates a far more intimate relationship between God and His child than that of a shepherd to his flock. We shall, therefore, consider the psalm under two basic headings.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. We live in a world of anxiety brought on by great tensions. Yet, this psalm assures us that we have all that we need in our Lord. How can we learn to trust in Him instead of the material circumstances about us? It is not easy. It is something that must be learned. But the learning will repay any effort. Have you learned to trust God for all your needs?

B. The shepherd's life was one of hardship and toil at times, but he never neglected his sheep. We may be sure that in all the din and turmoil of this world our Shepherd will not forget us, His sheep. God never gets too busy to meet the needs of each of His children, regardless of who he is or where he is.

C. Remember that the sheep (we) are part of this flock by choice. Each man must say for himself, **The Lord is my shepherd**. No one can make this important decision for another. And, each sheep remains a part of this flock by choice. Jesus said, ". . .no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand" (John 10:29). While there is no one strong enought to overpower the Shepherd and take away His sheep, there is also no way to force the sheep to remain in the flock. The sheep are safe only as long as they remain in the Shepherd's care.

D. In the Twenty-third Psalm, the writer thinks about all the good things that are his because he is a member of the Shepherd's flock. Then he affirms that he will stay in the Father's house forever. Do you ever have any desire to desert the Father and try to make it along in this world, without His protection and care?

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Discipline, whether administered by human beings or by God himself, is never easy to accept. But if we examine the beneficial changes made in our lives by previous periods of discipline (note Hebrews 12:11), we will be better prepared to thank God when we experience fresh applications of His "staff."

B. Before a cup can be filled with good things, it may have to be emptied of what is worthless or harmful. In order to receive God's blessings we may have to pour out our prejudices, evil desires, selfish ambitions, and the like.

C. Psalm 23 appears to reflect the experiences of a man whose faith had been tested many times, but who had discovered that his Shepherd had always been near when danger threatened. It seems most fitting to view this psalm as David's nature testimony to what God had done for Him over the years of his reign over Israel.

D. This psalm breathes such a spirit of trust that it will continue to speak to people's hearts whatever changes may come in our social patterns. There is a timeless quality in the shepherd's tender relationship to his sheep that makes it a particularly fitting symbol of God's love and care for His people.

E. As Christians, we enjoy eternal life as a present possession (John 17:3). Some of the joys we shall enjoy in Heaven are already ours as a foretaste of those glorious things to come.

F. "Beneath the burning skies, and the clear starry night of Palestine, there grows up between the shepherd and his flock a union of attachment and tenderness. It is the country where, at any moment, their protector may have to save them by personal hazard."—F. W. Roverson. This is the way our Shepherd is attached to us.

—Selected

"There never was a person who did anything worth doing, who did not receive more than he gave."

—Henry Ward Beecher.



story corner

MOSES SEES GOD

THE Hebrews had sinned. This had angered God. They had not kept their promise to obey God's laws. So God was no longer bound by His promises to care for them and go before them to the land of Canaan. They could not count on His power to help them take the land from the people who were living in the land.

Moses was also angry. He punished the Hebrews who were not willing to obey God. Three thousand were killed.

The people showed God how sorry they were by dressing very plainly. They wore no fancy or embroidered clothes. They wore no make-up or jewelry.

God came in a cloud to visit Moses' tent. Moses begged God to forgive the Hebrews and take them back as His people.

Because Moses had been so faithful and God loved him so, He promised to forgive the people.

The people saw the cloud over Moses' tent and knew God was there. They knelt, every one, and prayed that God would forgive them. They knew that without God's help they would never be able to take Canaan from the people who lived there. They were not soldiers. They had been slaves all their lives. There was no hope that they could battle the armies of the Canaanites and win. But with God's help they knew it could be done. They remembered the miracles they had seen since Moses came to Egypt to get them. Only with God did they stand a chance.

God forgave them. He told Moses to make two more tablets of stone and bring them to the top of the mountain. God would chisel the laws into this stone as He had done on the ones Moses broke.

There was much happiness among the Hebrews when Moses told them God had forgiven them.

Early the next morning Moses went back to the top of the mountain. He took the two slabs of stone with him.

At the top of the mountain there was a small cave in the rocks. It was here that Moses was standing when God came to the mountain top.

The cloud which covered God settled before Moses.

Moses bowed his head and said, "My people have sinned. But if I have found favor with you, forgive them and promise again to guide us and protect us and go with us to Canaan."

God's voice spoke from the cloud, "Before all the people of the earth I will make this promise. I forgive your people. I will go with you. I will do miracles which have never been seen before. Everyone shall know that I am with the Hebrews. I will make them able to defeat the mighty armies of the people who live in Canaan, for I have promised this land to the Hebrews. But there are things you must do.

"These people do not worship Me as their God. They worship idols. You must destroy their idols and their temples. You must not make friends with these people, for they might persuade the Hebrews to worship their idols and I will be angry. If the Hebrews do this and keep My laws, I will always be with them and protect them."

God chiseled the ten laws into the slabs of stone.

Moses was on the mountain top forty days and forty nights, as he had been before.

When God was ready to leave the mountain, He covered the cave and the cloud disappeared. When God had turned away from the cave, Moses could see His back as He went away.

No man, since Adam and Eve, had ever been allowed to see God. Moses did not see God's face, but he saw God as He went away from the mountain.

As far as we know, there has never been another person to see God since Moses.

Angels have been seen. Jesus, the son of God, was seen. But God Himself has not been seen again.

At the end of the forty days and nights Moses came back down the mountain.

Some of the people saw a strange light coming down the side of the mountain. Perhaps they were afraid.

It came toward the camp. Then they realized it was Moses.

Because he had been so close to God, his skin shone. Rays of light shot out from the parts of his body which were uncovered. The light was so bright that the people could not stand to look at him. They were afraid to come near him. Even Aaron, his brother, was afraid. They did not understand that this was caused by God's nearness and would wear away in time.

Moses saw that they were afraid, for he called them to come to hear what God had said. But they held back.

Moses went into his tent and made a mask to cover his head. Then he went out and called the Hebrews again. Now they could look at him. He told them of God's promise to be with them and help them take the land of Canaan. The crowd roared with joy. They were forgiven!

Then Moses said, "God wants us to build a house to be used for worship. He has given me the directions as to how it will be built. It will be a tent that we can carry with us as we travel. Aaron and his sons will be the priests in charge of the tabernacle and the worship services. Go back to your tents and bring your silver, gold, and brass. Bring the linen which you brought from Egypt. Bring your goat's hair and your sheep's wool to be woven. Bring the dyes of blue, purple and red. Bring your gems for decoration and your spices for the incense oil. These are the things we shall use to make God's house."

The people went back to their tents and happily gathered the things Moses had asked. They were willing to give up these things for the tabernacle of God.

They were willing to work, also. The women offered to spin the wool and goats' hair into thread and weave it into cloth. The men offered to build the frame and carve the furniture.

God had given Moses a list of the people who were to do certain jobs. Moses called the ones on the list to him and told each person what he was to do.

(Continued on Page 14)

Feature

(Continued from Page 4)

The problem of divorce has also become a bigger problem to the minister in a world which has "come of age." It is a problem for the minister, the ordaining council and the church seeking a pastor. This is a real problem for the minister who has been divorced or the minister who marries a divorcee. This problem is ethical, Biblical, and highly personal and is being faced by more and more churches and ministers. The following comments of a divorced minister highlight this problem. "The minister certainly does have to face up to many risks resulting from divorce that other men do not have to face. Whether we like it or not, there is a sort of double standard, one for the minister and one for the non-minister in the public mind."[4]

Another divorced minister made this statement, "I did delay my decision (to be divorced) not because I doubted the need for divorce, but because I hate to give up the ministry."[5]

[1] Illion T. Jones, **The Pastor: The Man And His Ministry**, p. 133

[2] Ralph M. Smucker, **Christianity Today**, The Minister and His Wife, pp. 51-52.

[3] Ibid, p. 852

[4] Wayne E. Oates, **The Christian Pastor**, p. 77

[5] Ibid

Story Corner

(Continued from Page 13)

Some were told to mold the gold and silver and brass. Others were to embroider the linen. Each person had a particular job to do. They were willing.

When all the gifts were brought, Moses was pleased, for there was more than enough. Now they were ready to begin.

Next week we shall see how the tabernacle was made.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

MISSIONS

GOOD NEWS FOR THE KINGS

Wayne and Deborah King have some good news to tell! There will be a new addition in the King family. They are very excited about this wonderful blessing. Deborah is getting along fine.

WHO AM I?

I lived at a time when man's wickedness was great in the earth, but I found grace in the eyes of the Lord. God commanded me to build an ark, which looked much like a three-story houseboat. Many people thought I was crazy. Later these wicked people were drowned in a great flood. I was in the ark with my wife, my three sons, and their wives. My name is found in Genesis 7:7.

My brothers were jealous of me. For twenty pieces of silver, they sold me to the Ishmaelites, and I was carried into Egypt as a slave. In Egypt, I refused to be tempted and was faithful to God, even while in prison. My bones were put in a coffin and carried around for forty years. My name is found in Joshua 24:32.

I was carried faraway from my homeland in Babylon. In the heathen's court I refused to eat the king's meat or drink the king's wine. Because I prayed to God three times a day, I was cast into a den of lions. My name is found in Daniel 6:10.

Paul and I were beaten and thrown into prison. At midnight we prayed and sang praises to God. Suddenly there was a great earthquake that opened the prison doors and set the prisoners loose. The keeper of the prison wanted to know how to be saved. We said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." My name is found in Acts 16:25.

—Selected

Answers to Who Am I

Noah Joseph Daniel Silas

SINCE YESTERDAY

Along the golden streets
A stranger walks tonight
With wonder in his heart—
Faith blossomed into sight.

He walks and stops and stares,
And walks and stares again.
Vistas of loveliness
Beyond the dreams of men.

He who once was weak,
And often shackled to a bed,
Now climbs eternal hills
With light and easy tread.

He has escaped at last
The cruel clutch of pain;
His lips shall never taste
Her bitter cup again.

O never call him dead,
This buoyant one and free,
Whose daily portion is
Delight and ecstacy!

He bows in speechless joy
Before the feet of Him
Whom, seeing not, he loved
While yet his sight was dim.

Along the golden streets
No stranger walks today,
But one who, long homesick,
Is home at last, to stay!

—Martha Snell Nicholson

CARDS OF THANKS

We wish to thank our many friends for your cards, your phone calls, your sympathy, your gifts, and most of all for your prayers during our bereavement. It always helps to know that others care and share in our sorrow.

The Family of Michael Boone Chandler.

February

Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month
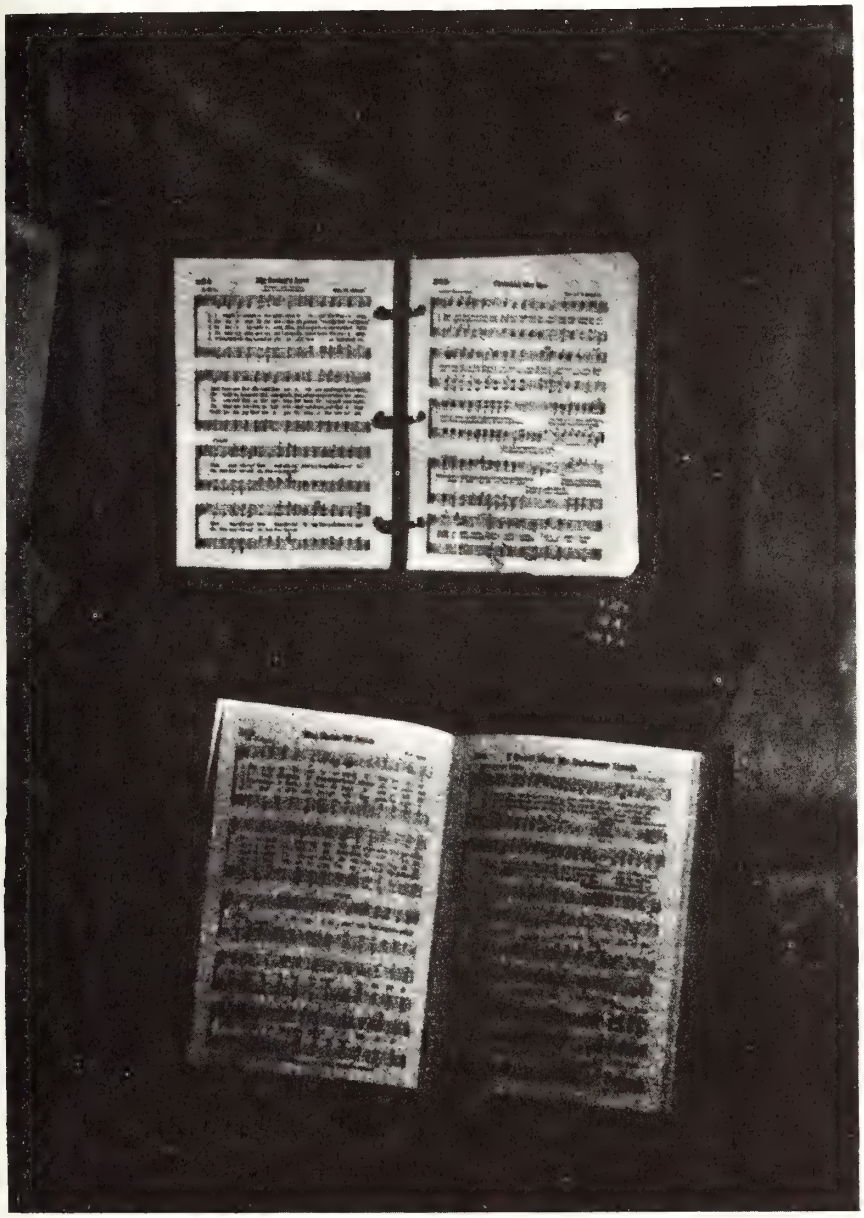


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Jesus
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Refreshments

You're Invited



There are many types of child abuse. The editor directs attention to a subtle, and too often ignored, type.

the free will baptist

FEBRUARY 22, 1978
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



Tommy Manning
Editor

Editorial . . .

Cover Photo by Camerique

CHILD ABUSE OF A DIFFERENT KIND

Hitting the front pages of newspapers and periodicals, crying out from TV screens, and blaring from radio newscasts with increased force is the problem of *child abuse*. One of the worst crimes in the United States today, child abuse is on the increase; and while many concerned individuals lament the fact, very little is being done about it.

Children of all ages are being hospitalized with broken bones, burns, cuts, and all manner of injuries—some of which prove fatal. "Battered and bruised" are the typical adjectives used by reporters and commentators, but "tortured and maimed" is a more accurate description.

Most of the time the injuries are termed "accidental" by the parents or guardians, and only in rare instances does the truth come to light. It is difficult to prove intentional neglect or maltreatment. And even if the child is old enough to reveal the fact, he is afraid to expose the abuser.

There are various causes that lead to child abuse, but most psychologists and psychiatrists agree that the overriding reason is a low frustration threshold. Some parents (and guardians) who are, under normal circumstances, loving and caring persons, become violent when pushed to a point of intolerance. The intolerance results from such things as a bad day at work, too little sleep, preoccupation, the "I've-had-as-much-as-I-can-take" syndrome, and other pressures.

A child—especially a young one—is an easy target, and a defenseless one. Verbal and physical assaults inflicted upon them receive little counteraction, for few children are aggressive enough to lash back at their superiors with any success. And even if they did retaliate, this action on their part might generate intensified brutality for them to suffer.

Some "afflicters" alibi that undue aggravation prompts sudden physical violence which is not consistent with their characters. Thus, they defend themselves with, "I didn't mean to hit him so hard. All I remember is that I flew into a rage. He was crying and wouldn't stop." The stories are too numerous and varied to recount, but all are sad. The children sustain not only the physical scars of the injuries, but emotional scars as well—the latter being the more serious. Psychological damage is sometimes irreparable, and *never* cured—according to some specialists.

There is *another, more subtle, type of child abuse* that is as bad as that discussed, but not so often emphasized. It is the case of *being indifferent to a child's mental and emotional needs and not seeing him as a person.* Consider the times you have ignored your own child's important question with a sigh of annoyance, a "Not now; I'm too busy," "Go away; leave me alone," or "Why don't you just be quiet?" Can you not imagine the crushing blow to the young ego? Children are people too, and as such are due the same (and in some instances *more*) consideration as adults.

Probably the most hurt *I* have ever been was one day when I was driving to church with my twelve-year-old son. With a simple question and statement, he caused me to reorder my personal set of priorities. His question, while not too significant to big minds, was important to his immature one. The question itself is not consequential enough to relate, but the outcome is.

I was preoccupied, as parents often are, and had hesitated a few moments, fully intending to give him my attention after I had resolved some personal thought. I turned and inquired as to what he had asked, and he responded in soul-searing truth: "Oh, nothing, Daddy. You don't have time to listen to me, and you're not really interested anyway."

I must admit to a tear or two; but more importantly, I decided then and there that no question of my child's, however insignificant to my way of thinking, would ever go unanswered.

God forbid that we be guilty of child abuse of *any* kind.

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LOOKING BACK 54 YEARS

by the Rev. L. B. Manning

(Few would dispute the fact that the Rev. L. B. Manning is one of our most dedicated ministers—one who has overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles to realize his fond dream: to serve his Lord with courage and diligence. All people can take heart from one who, as the expression goes, "started with a little and spread it out." We salute Mr. Manning for his excellent faith and outstanding service; and if a single lesson can be learned from his life, it is humbleness of spirit.—The Editor)



I was ordained to preach the gospel of our wonderful Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ on February 11, 1924, at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville, which was located on the corner of Forbes and Eleventh Streets.

The ministers on the ordaining council were D. W. Alexander, M. A. Woodard, C. J. Harris, and D. A. Windham. They were assisted by L. E. Ballard, who was pastor of the church at that time.

As I look back and think of all the wonderful blessings that my Heavenly Father has bestowed upon me, I'd like to say, in the language of the Psalmist David, in Psalm 103, Verse 2: "Bless the Lord O my soul: and forget not all his benefits." God has been so good to me through these years that I don't know how to thank Him.

I think of something I heard Gypsy Smith Jr. say when I heard him preach a sermon more than fifty years ago:

He said he was called to the bedside of his aunt, a dedicated Christian who was gravely ill, knowing that in a little while she was going to be with the Lord. Gypsy stood by her bed and talked with her for a while, and as he was fixing to leave, he said: "Auntie, I'm going to leave you now; but before I leave, I want to pray What do you want me to ask the Lord to do for you?" He said she looked up and said, "Honey, don't ask Him to do anything, just thank Him for what He has already done."

This is exactly the way I feel today. I don't feel that I can live long enough to thank the good Lord for what He's done for me these fifty-four years.

Soon after I was ordained, the Rev. Cash, pastor of the Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church in Tyrell County, died. The Rev. D. W. Alexander, who lived in that section of the country, recommended me to the Sound Side church. They called me to pastor their church.

At that time, I had to drive a horse and buggy, or a Model T, or go by train. I remember my first appointment. I left Farmville on Saturday morning and went to Chocowinity; there I changed trains and went to Mackeys Ferry. I had to ride to the Ferry on a log train, and from there go to Sound Side in a Model T with Brother Arthur Brickhouse.

I can't think of a single year when I did not carry from one to four churches. Back in those days, most churches had only quarter-time-services—only once a month. I served four churches for a number of years.

God has been so good to me during these years, and my own people, the Free Will Baptist people, have been so good to me. What I'm saying here, I'm not saying to boast. I'm only saying these things to say, "Thank you," to all Free Will Baptist people throughout North Carolina, who have been so nice to me.

They have invited me into their churches. God has blessed me to pastor 25 churches; 3 of these churches I pastored 3 different times and 5 of them I pastored twice. And I pastored my home church for 14 years. I'm grateful to my own people for inviting me to my home church in the community where I grew up. They were so good to me.

During these years, I have also conducted revivals in 80 Free Will Baptist Churches. I'm not saying this to boast, I'm saying it to thank the people and the good Lord for giving me the strength and health to preach all these years.

Some of the churches—I remember at least one—I've been back to at least 10 times for revival meetings and God has so wonderfully blessed me.

My friends in the Free Will Baptist denomination have honored me by electing me to serve in almost every office available in the denomination. I served as president of the State Convention for two years; moderator of the Central Conference for six years; chairman of the Missions Board for one term; a member of the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press; on the Church Finance Association; and on the Ordaining Council.

I do not mention these things to boast, God knows my heart. I'm saying it because I feel so unworthy and I'm so thankful.

It hasn't been easy all these years. When I first began preaching, a minister could hardly get enough money to pay his gas bill. I remember on several occasions how I'd drive 75 miles to my appointment and 75 miles back and many times have to go to the filling station man and tell him I did not get enough money for my gas. Sometimes I'd go to the man that I traded with, as a tenant farmer, and borrow the money to pay for my gas. But I still enjoyed it, and God blessed me, and I'd do it over again if I could.

I also remember one particular occasion when the treasurer of the church

(Continued on Next Page)

came to me on Sunday morning and said the offer was around three dollars and they had decided to send it to the Union Meeting. He said if I'd go home with him, he would give me a watermelon. That old Model T that I was driving just simply would not burn watermelon juice.

I remember something else that happened while I was pastoring a church. I was just a young preacher and the church would elect their pastor on the last quarterly meeting just before the yearly meeting. In June, it came time for them to elect a pastor. I had only been there nine months. (I was called to this church in June, which was the third quarter. In the last quarter, which began in September, the new pastor would begin his year.) I thought for sure that they would re-elect me to serve the church. They had promised me $12 or $12.50.

I stated to the church that it was time to elect the pastor, and I asked them if they wanted to do anything about it. One lady stood up and said she had talked to a particular minister, who was very popular at that time, who would serve for $25 a trip. Another member stood up and said "How can we pay him $25 a trip, when we don't even keep up with our present pastor at half that much?"

She stood up again and said "that's what's wrong with our church, messing with cheap preachers."

One time I was conducting a revival meeting at a church I'd been to for a number of years. Back in those days, the minister would go to a church, take his suitcase with a few clothes in it, and go from place to place to spend the night. One man came to me at the first of the week and said, "You're supposed to go home with me on Thursday night." I told him that whatever he and the church decided would be fine with me.

It was real cold, and after the service was over on Thursday night, we went on to his house. He had to make a fire in the fireplace, and I was sitting around cold. Finally, when I thawed out a little bit, he said "Well, Brother Manning, you don't mind having this young fellow for a bed pal tonight, do you?" We went to bed in a little shed room. This little fellow—about four or five years old—kept his knees in the middle of my back most of the night. I couldn't sleep much for him kicking me in the back. Sometime during the night I felt a heavy weight on my feet—I hauled off and kicked whatever it was and I heard an old hound dog holler and then jump out the window. (They had these board windows that opened from the inside; then they would fall back shut.) That old hound jumped out that window. Now that's honest!

It hasn't been easy by no means, but I can't think of but just a very few Sundays in these 54 years when I did not have a church to preach to. Today I'm stilling pastoring a church, and I'm still enjoying it. This church is only a fifteen minute drive from my home. The people are fine people. I thoroughly enjoy it. God has blessed me. I just don't know how He can bless me so.

I'd like to say again, in the words of Gypsy Smith's aunt: "I don't want to ask for any more blessings, but just thank Him for what He has already done." I want to thank the people throughout North Carolina for all the nice things they have done for me and given me.

It hasn't been easy. The devil has tried me; he's done everything in his power to prevent me from preaching the gospel. Many times I've been so discouraged that I was just about ready to surrender.

I often think of a story I heard of a man who was driving a team of horses. The horses got scared and started running. The man was thrown from the wagon, but held onto the reins while the horses went round and round. He was thrown against the wagon wheels, taking a severe beating. The people would shout, "turn loose, turn loose." Finally they stopped the horses. Someone said to the man, "Why in the world didn't you turn loose the lines?"

He said, "I couldn't turn loose, look in the wagon." When they looked, they saw the man's little boy in the wagon.

So many times the devil has tempted me to turn loose and I have become so discouraged and so blue, and I needed somebody to help me to lift me up. But by the grace of God I held on, because I always knew that there was a little boy or little girl in the wagon that I might be instrumental in saving. I remembered that Jesus said "if any one will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

I decided a long time ago that
We can't expect to
Sail to Heaven on the flowery bed of ease
While others fight to win the prize
That sail through bloody seas.
And then I think of that old song we sing:
Must Jesus bear the cross alone
And all the world go free.
No, there's a cross for everyone
And there's a cross for me.

I knew the Lord, through His goodness and mercy, called me into the ministry. There has never been any doubt that God called me to preach, because I was only a little ignorant boy when I felt the call from Almighty God. I did not have to opportunity to go to school like so many have today; I had only finished the third grade in school.

I say to any young minister today, whoever he is or wherever he may be, he has a wonderful opportunity to go to school—to improve his talent. He can study, do what Paul said in his writing to Timothy, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman who needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

I believe with all my heart that real men of God are called by God to preach. I believe God calls men to preach. I believe that a call to preach is a call to prepare. I don't believe God would be pleased with anything short of the very best we have to offer; so I thank God that He has blessed me during these years—and I know that if I had to start over again, like young ministers today, with only the education I had, I would not have been blessed—not been used by the people as I have in the past.

But God has wonderfully blessed me. The school of experience is the greatest school of all.

During these 54 years, God has blessed me and God is using me still. I don't know how long God will permit me to live, but I only hope that He will give me health and strength to preach to the end of the journey. And then, when this life is over, I believe with all my heart that I will be able to say, like Paul of old: "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith, and now the time of my departure is at hand. It is a crown that awaits me."

I believe that somewhere, sometime, the good Lord is going to say to me, like He said to those in Matthew 25: "Well done thou good and faithful servant, you have been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many. Enter thou into the joys of thy Lord."

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Please explain, "Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation" (Romans 13:2). What all does the word "damnation" mean?

Answer: It means **condemnation, destruction, judgment**; perhaps its most often meaning is judgment. The judgment which a person brings himself under when he sins is that described in the Bible. The faithful servant of Matthew 24:45-47 is commended and made ruler over all his Lord's goods. But here is what happens to the one whom his Lord finds to be unfaithful, "But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite his fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of, And shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypoctites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 24:48-51).

In Matthew 25 we have the same thing in part illustrated by our Lord. Here the unfaithful who received one talent and hid it in safekeeping until his lord returned, but gained nothing in using the talent as his lord desired that he should do, was brought under judgment or condemnation by his lord. "And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance; but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 25:25-30).

This talent using and treatment of other servants includes in them all that we do from the time our Lord returned to Heaven in what we refer to as the ascension until He returns in His second coming. When the one under judgment cannot understand how he has been unkindly in his treatment of Christ our blessed Lord He replies. "Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal" (Matthew 25:44-46).

My what a contrast God's Word shows in the judgment of the diligent, obedient servant and that of the disobedient who had the same chance in life to make good and oh! what a short time this life a affords to make the choice and carry out his plans according to that choice. In the case of the rich man and Lazarus: Luke 16:19-31; Lazarus chose the right way and to give first place to the good and had it said of him just the opposite to that which was said of the rich man: "But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence" (Luke 16:25, 26).

The rich man spent his time on earth "fareing sumptuously every day". Lazarus spent his time in a way that gave him a presence in paradise. "And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame" (Luke 16:22-24).

God's judgment, damnation or eternal condemnation was upon the rich man. His judgment of favor was eternally upon Lazarus. At the judgment seat of Christ in the air Lazarus will be judged for rewards that will come to him according to how faithful he was in life's short span upon earth. At the Great White Throne Judgment the rich man will be judged according to his opportunities he spurned and it will be determined how much punishment will be his throughout eternity in the lake of fire "where the worm never dies and the fire is never quenched."

George H. Sandison says the following in answering a similar question in **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered:**

"The word 'damnation,' as used in Scripture to denote the final loss of the soul, is not always, according to the newer versions, to be understood in precisely the same sense. Thus, in the old versions, the reading in Romans 13:2, "They that resist shall receive to themselves damnation," is now held by the later translators to be more accurately expressed by the word "condemnation" (from the rulers, as the whole passage implies). Again, in 1 Corinthians 11:29), the well-known passage is rendered by the new versions "eateth and drinketh judgment unto himself," etc. in John 5:29, "resurrection of damnation" is rendered "resurrection of judgment."

Coming Events . . .

March 18—Western District Youth Fellowship Spring Convention, Mount Olive College Chapel Mount Olive, 9:30 a. m.

March 18—Eastern District Youth Convention, Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pink Hill

March 18—Central District Youth Meeting, at 10 a. m., Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville

March 23—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary, Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, 9:30 a. m.

Continued from Last Week's Issue.

A CRITICAL ROLE FOR THE PROTESTANT MINISTER

by De W. Eakes

PREACHER'S CHILDREN

Although included above, P. K.'s as they are referred to, deserve special comment and attention. They are very much in the public eye and are often cited as turning out bad. I have heard "ad nauseum" the trite phrase "the preacher's kid is the meanest kid in town." The facts do not agree with this statement. Some preacher's kids have argued that their parents are too strict. That they are expected to be better than other children. These and other complaints at times are valid. However, there are many pluses to be considered.

Where discipline is concerned, there are certain standards that should be enforced in any Christian home. Recent studies have revealed some encouraging facts about preacher's children. They tend to have a broader outlook on life due to their exposure to an unusual number of different people. Usually they are well traveled. Due to the varied magazines and books in the homes, they are normally well read. Generally speaking, preacher's children turn out quite well. The level of education they attain and the life they make for themselves is generally above the average. They also tend to be concerned for others and enter the various helping professions.

Some preacher's children rebel against God. Some are undisciplined. Some don't make it in the world and in life. But it's not because they are preacher's children. Children from all levels of society go wrong and others make it good. Facts show that percentage wise, the preacher's child is normally none the worse for being reared in the parsonage.

MINISTER AS PROVIDER

Many times the minister does not adequately provide for his family. As husbands and fathers, we are under the same obligation to supply our families with material and physical needs that others enjoy. As pastors, we are rendering a desired service for which adequate compensation should be received. It is a sinful shirking of our responsibilities to allow our families to live on sub-standard income levels. Many ministers make the mistake of feeling embarrassed as a man of God to ask for a desired level of income. Therefore, many turn to various forms of "tent-making" to supplement their income or put their wife to work. A man cannot serve as a pastor and have another time-consuming job apart from his church. A wife cannot be wife, mother, partial-provider and work in the church as if she had no public job. If the minister does not adequately provide for his family, no one else will!

To the average church member, living in the parsonage seems to be a good deal. The minister has no rent or house payment and no property taxes as expenses. This is true and is considered by most churches as a part of his salary. Those who think thusly are unaware of the ensuing problems for the minister's family in the parsonage.

The problems are legion. The house is seldom built to suit family needs. It is built for the "average minister's family." When the house needs painting the Board must approve the expenditure. If a room needs painting or the floor needs covering, someone in the church has to be consulted. Very often, the minister's wife complains it is not "her house" and she does not feel free to do with it as she desires. In some churches (thankfully, not ours) the people of the church literally use the parsonage as an auxiliary building. A good solution to this problem is a locked door when no one is home.

The minister is also faced with the idea of not having a home of his own, at least, until retirement. While the church may consider the parsonage as a part of the minister's compensation, it is in reality a major financial liability. If he serves a church two or twenty years, he has nothing, by way of housing or equity, to show for that portion of his income. A trend of today is for the church to offer a minister a reasonable housing allowance in lieu of a manse. This leaves the minister free to rent or buy a house of his own choosing in accord with his financial circumstances. This is a good solution to this problem in areas where it is feasible.

I have referred to the manse as a house. Most ministers and their families, I know, make the manse a real Christian home. This is done often in spite of the many problems inherent in living in the manse. The minister must insure a Christian home for this family regardless of the specific circumstances.

A larger number of churches every year are increasing their support for their pastor to provide him with better financial security. The minister must seek to merit this support and encourage its continuation. This is necessary if his family is to live as others in the community.

A minister must face the question of how many children in the light of his ability to provide for them, as well as, in the light of the prevailing threat of overpopulation. It is a great breach of trust to bring a child into the world without adequate means of support. We have failed as provider unless we realize our families looks to us personally, not at the church corporately, for the material things of life. We as ministers must act in keeping with this fact.

RELATING THE ROLES OF A MINISTER

We do not have space to deal with the various roles of the minister in relation to the minister as family man in great deal. We will attempt to do so in summary fashion. By various statements in the paper, we have implied the interrelatedness of all of the various roles. Some seem to be more directly related than others. All are inseparatable related.

The validity of the minister's message as preacher and the effectiveness of his teaching will be greatly enhanced as the congregation sees these precepts in action in his family life. It avails a man little to teach and preach about family relationships and then not follow this with consistant Christian Family

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Mount Olive College

ABEL WARREN, FRIEND OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by Claude H. Moore,
History Professor



Mount Olive College is now observing its twenty-fifth anniversary, having come to Mount Olive in 1953 with assets of $6.17. The enrollment, starting with twenty-two students, have grown to four hundred. This growth has been largely due to friends of the College like the late Abel Warren of Sampson County who had faith in the College and left a trust fund to serve as an endowment.

Abel Warren was known far and wide in eastern Carolina, not only for his energy and business ability, but for his dedicated interest in education, churches, and service to community. He believed in the pioneer virtues of work, thrift, and honesty.

Born in Westbrook Township, Sampson County, in 1892, Abel was the son of Ashley and Amanda Allen Warren, and was a grandson of Blake Warren, who was a son of Bennett Warren, a son of Richard Warren, who in turn was a son of the pioneer settler, Isaiah Warren, a soldier of the American Revolution. Young Abel was a member of Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Newton Grove where his family were numbered among the founders of this church. His only formal education was at Oak Grove School which was located on the church site.

Abel Warren met his future wife, Mary Florence Caison of Roseboro, when she came to teach at Oak Grove School. They were married on September 10, 1918.

In 1919, Mr. and Mrs. Warren settled in Roseboro, where he worked with the mercantile business with his brother-in-law, Mr. Fred Caison. A fire swept the business section of Roseboro in December 1920, and their store building was burned. In 1922, the Warrens moved to Garland and operated a store where he prospered and remained until he moved to Clinton in July 1960.

There was no Free Will Baptist Church in Garland, so the Warrens joined the Methodist Church. In fact, then the church was built in 1925, he gave the lumber for the building. During his stay in Garland, he was a member and first Master of the Garland Masonic Lodge (664), served on the Town Board and was Mayor of Garland, was a member of the Board of County Commissioners, an active member of the Sons of the American Revolution, one time President of the Carolina Hardware Association, was one of the Board of Directors of the Scottish Bank and a member of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Merchants Association. Warren always supported the public schools and was for many years chairman of the Board of Trustees of Pineland College, Salemburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren had two sons and two daughters: Abel McRae who lives in Garland; Calvin Williard who is in the Mercantile business in Clinton; Mrs. Mary Allen Flint of Liberty, South Carolina; and Mrs. Iris Lane Park of Maryland.

Warren died on May 4, 1974, and was buried in the Warren Family Cemetery near Oak Grove. In his will he set up a trust fund, the income from which was to be shared equally between Mount Olive College, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Middlesex, the Garland Methodist Church, and the Methodist Children's home in Raleigh. On the last visit which the writer had with Mr. Warren, he said that he would always believe in the ancient faith and traditions of the Free Will Baptists, and that he was proud indeed of Mount Olive College.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE TRUSTEES HAVE QUARTERLY MEETING

President W. Burkette Raper and Chairman James B. Hunt Sr. jointly announced today highlights of the quarterly meeting of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees held February 14 in Mount Olive.

The trustees approved the site plan for the location of the next three buildings scheduled for the new campus: college hall which will serve as a gymnasium and convention center complex; a college union which will house the food services and serve as a center for student activities; and a fine arts building for music, art and drama. Total cost of these buildings was put at $5 million.

The trustees gave priority to College hall as the next building and authorized the architectural firm of Hayes, Howell and Associates of Southern Pines to prepare the working drawings. Architectural representatives told the trustees that the plans would be completed by August 1. The trustees stated that contracts would be awarded as soon thereafter as gifts and pledges adequate to finance the project were secured. The cost of College hall is estimated to be $1.5 million.

President Raper reported that total enrollment for the spring semester reached 538, an increase of 10 percent above last year. The board was told that 336 students were enrolled on campus and another 202 were in extension programs.

Charles Harrell, business manager, reported to the board that student financial aid for the 1977-78 academic year exceeded one-half million dollars, an amount equal to $1,200 per full-time student.

"We remain true to our commitment that no worthy and qualified student will

be denied admission to Mount Olive College for financial reason," President Raper said to the trustees.

At his request, J. Harold Herring Jr., director of development at Mount Olive College since 1974, was given a leave of absence, effective March 1, so that he can campaign for, and if elected serve, as the President of the North Carolina Jaycees.

President Raper reported to the board that gifts, pledges and other assets to the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Program of Mount Olive College have reached $2,055,885 since the program began in July, 1975. The College has set a goal of $7 million for educational development, new buildings and endowment by 1981.

The trustees were told that the "Charitable Giving through Life Insurance Program" has now reached $1 million in policies owned by and payable to Mount Olive College.

Russell Duncan, director of admissions, reported that applications for 1978-79 looked favorable and he forecast an increase in enrollment.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at Saint Paul's Free Will Baptist Church in Sampson County on Sunday, February 26, at the 10 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. C. Felton Godwin is pastor.

REMEMBER . . . STUDENT SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26TH (United Prayer 11:30 a. m.)

. . . For Mount Olive College to grow ever stronger as a part of God's ministry on this earth.

. . . For hearts to be touched and gifts to be made that College Hall and our other proposed buildings in the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Program might become a reality.

. . . For all our churches and denominational enterprises that we press toward the high calling.

Prayer is the answer, God is the source and YOU are the key.

STUDENTS PLAN TRIP TO GEORGIA

by Dianne Riley

Mrs. Dianne Riley, associate director of admissions, and four Mount Olive College students will be visiting churches in the Paul Palmer Conference, located in southwest Georgia during spring break at Mount Olive College set for February 24—March 3. The students participating include: JoAnn Hines, Winterville Free Will Baptist Church; Vivian Hinton of Princeton; Danny Mitchell, Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church; and Lynwood Stewart of Cove City.

The students and Mrs. Riley will be visiting in the Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church area near Shellman, Georgia, with Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rice on Saturday evening, February 25. On Sunday morning, they will conduct the morning worship service at the Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church in Colquitt where the Rev. Bass Mitchell serves as pastor. Bass and his wife, Debbie, both attended Mount Olive College. On Sunday evening, the group will be in the Zion Free Will Baptist Church near Blakely, Georgia, with the Rev. Dwight Hawley and his wife Aileen, who were also students at Mount Olive College. All churches in the conference are being invited to join Zion for the evening service.

On Monday evening, February 27, all youth leaders in the conference are invited to bring their high school students to join the youth at Colquitt, where the Mount Olive College team will show slides of the College and share what Mount Olive College is like with them.

While in Georgia the group will be visitng in Southwest Academy, a private school in the Damascus area and Early County High School in the Blakely area.

The churches in the Paul Palmer Conference include Bethlehem, the Rev. Derrell Thompson, pastor; White Pond and Jakin, the Rev. Paul Erving, pastor; Colquitt, the Rev. Bass Mitchell, pastor; and White Oak church.

KING JAMES BIBLE DISCUSSED

Dr. Roger A. Bullard, professor of religion at Atlantic Christian College, will deliver a lecture on "The Historical Setting of the King James Version of the Bible" in Rodgers Chapel on Thursday, February 23, 1978, at 8 p. m.

In his lecture, Dr. Bullard will discuss the background of the King James translation, the men who were commissioned to prepare it, and the reception it was given when it was published in 1611. From the perspective of later history this translation is reckoned among the most significant literary achievements of the English speaking world, but this was not the judgment of many of King James' subjects.

Dr. Bullard is a Bible translator himself, having served as a member of the translation committee preparing the Old Testament in Today's English Bible for the American Bible Society (The Good News Bible).

Both ministers and laymen are welcome to attend this lecture.

Before coming to Atlantic Christian in 1965, Dr. Bullard was an instructor in Greek at Vanderbilt University where he received his Ph.D. in Biblical Studies.

A member of numerous societies and author of several publications, he served as a member of the translation committee, 1967-76, for the American Bible Society in preparing the **Wisdom for Modern Man** (published, 1972).

Dr. Bullard is a member of the First Baptist Church in Wilson where he serves as Sunday school teacher and a member of the sanctuary choir. He is also faculty advisor to the Baptist Student Union on the Atlantic Christian College campus.

EMPHASIS ON SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Religious Emphasis Week, held annually at Mount Olive College, featured a week of activities for enrichment in the spiritual education for life.

Beginning Tuesday, February 7, in Rodgers Chapel, David Moore with the Department of Campus Ministry of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, spoke on "The Creation of Personhood—God's Creation."

Wednesday evening, Miss Caroline Castelloe, Mount Olive College math professor and summer missionary to Mexico, addressed the audience on the techniques of personal witnessing.

On Thursday morning, the Rev. John Kenerley of the Goldsboro Friends Meeting presented "The Response to Personhood—Man's Celebration."

Religious Life Week is held annually to offer opportunities for spiritual enrichment to students, personnel and community residents under the direction of Mount Olive College Chaplain, Frank Harrison.



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

My father passed away sixteen years ago, November 6, 1961. Strange though it may seem, some of my special moments occurred during the last year of his life. He was an invalid. Regardless of the stress of the day, each evening before we retired, Mother or I read to him from the Bible—a minimum of three chapters each night. This time spent together reading and discussing God's word, brought a peace and warmth that simply cannot be put into words. It not only brought us closer to God but closer to each other. Although we knew Daddy's condition was terminal, we were more prepared to deal with the long illness and the strain it brought. We were likewise better able to deal with our loss when the end came.

Without a doubt, Jesus cares and sustains us if we will turn to Him.

JT
Greenville

Children's Home

SNOW'S A MELTING

Snow's a melting and spring's a coming! As our thoughts turn to spring, those of us who were born in the country are already beginning to think of gardens and those delicious, fresh vegetables. We will be planting four acres of garden this year at the Home. We can and freeze a good portion of our vegetables each year. During the last year or so we have had a number of our food lockers in the cottages to go to the bad. We're going to need to replace them. If you are not using yours or your group would like to help us acquire one we would be grateful. Also, we use quite a number of canning jars, quart size, so don't throw them away, we can use them.

We hope to raise more produce than ever before this coming year so keep us in mind as garden season approaches.

JOIN THE PENNY MARCH

On a recent visit to the Saint's Delight Free Will Baptist Church at Bridgeton the Children's Home was presented with a gift of $165.60. We learned that much of the offering came from the "Penny March." It seems that each Sunday as the Sunday school members go to class they drop their pennies at the altar as they go by for the Children's Home. Even the little follks can participate in a offering of this nature with their savings.

Many of our churches have special programs such as this one to encourage participation. Such projects give many churches the extra incentive they need to do something for the Home, as well as other projects. We offer our thanks to Saint's Delight church and, indeed, all our people for their loyal support.

LEAGUES TO MEET AT MOUNT ZION

"Close Encounters with Christ" is the theme that has been selected for the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues to meet at Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, near Roper, on Saturday, March 11. This theme is exactly what the leagues of our state need to put new life in them. Therefore, all leagues are urged to be present with good representations.

Five things are needed now: (1) at least $75 from all general leagues possible for the state project—$1,000 for Cragmont Building Fund—or whatever the leagues can give; (2) a generous contribution to the convention (at least $10 from the general league is requested); (3) contestants for the Sword Drills; (4) a large number of leaguers to attend the Christian Cadet Conference at Cragmont this summer; and (5) a good representation from all leagues to attend the convention.

The Executive Committee has planned the program to conclude at 12:30 p. m, followed by lunch. There will be no afternoon session. Therefore, when report blanks are received from the corresponding secretary, it is urgent that the reports and contributions be mailed in so that the information can be tabulated before the convention in order to lessen the work of the Digest Committee.

Candidates for the junior and intermediate divisions of the Sword Drill should write to Mrs. Judy Conner, Route 2, Deep Run, North Carolina 28525 for study materials if you don't already have them. Give name, age, and address. Funds for the state project and 10 percent of weekly offerings may be sent to the treasurer, Miss Leah McGlohon, P. O. Box 2, Winterville, North Carolina 28590.

NOTICE

To all the churches of the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. Please clear any minister your congregation calls as pastor to your church prior to his assuming the pastorate of the church. This is in keeping with Article 4, Section 3 of the Constitution of the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, "It shall be the duty of the Board of Ordination . . . to examine ordained ministers seeking membership in this conference and to recommend them to the conference when examination is satisfactory." We sincerely request the cooperation of this matter of all of our member churches.

The Western Conference
Board of Ordination
De W. Eakes, Secretary

CHURCHES MEET DISCUSSING CAMP VANDEMERE

On a cold windy night recently, about forty laymen and ministers from 30 churches in Lenoir, Duplin, and Wayne counties met at the Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church to discuss the needs of Camp Vandemere.

The Rev. Bill Futch presided. He reminded everyone that this undertaking was purely on a volunteer basis. The fellowship and response was great and the love for the camp was readily seen in the excitement of the project.

The project goal was set—to raise $5,000. It was decided to hold two suppers within the churches of Lenoir County challenging the churches in Duplin and Wayne counties.

In Lenoir County, Smith's New Home, Deep Run, Gray Branch, Christian Chapel, and Piney Grove churches combined together to begin plans for a barbecue and fish stew to be held April 8 at the Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church from 11 a. m. until . . .

Kinston, First, Westside, British Chapel, Daly's Chapel, Jackson Heights, and Pilgrim's Home churches are holding their second planning session on February 20.

Also on the same day, representatives from Duplin and Wayne counties will hold their second planning session at Pearsall Chapel church near Kenansville.

Watch your **Free Will Baptist** for these dates.

BARBECUE DINNER ST. DELIGHT CHURCH

A barbecue dinner will be held at the St. Delight Free Will Baptist Church, Aurora Road, New Bern, Saturday, February 25, from 11 a. m. until 7 p. m. Proceeds will go to the building fund.

NOTICE

The Western Conference Board of Ordination will meet February 28, at 7 p.m., at the Selma Original Free Will Baptist Church, Selma. Anyone wishing to meet with the board is invited to attend. Please contact the chairman, the Rev. Clyde Cox, Wilson, at 243-6612 and let him know if you plan to attend the meeting.

The Western Conference
Board of Ordination
De W. Eakes, Secretary

"The Mountaintop Experience"

Cragmont Bulletin

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, NC

CRAGMONT TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Brought Forward January 1, 1978 $ 1,723.54

	Receipts	
Albemarle District		
Union Meeting	$ 17.67	$ 17.67
Cape Fear District		
Hopewell	50.63	
Wooten's Chapel	59.15	109.78
Central District		
Elm Crove	133.00	
Gum Swamp		
Floyd P. Harris	50.00	
Hugo	50.00	
Hull Road	500.00	
Owen's Chapel AFC	26.00	
Rose Hill Sunday School	5.00	
Winterville		
Clyde Hines	25.00	
Sunday School	47.18	836.18
Eastern District		
Bridgeton	36.00	
Crab Point	15.00	
Folkstone	150.00	
Grant's Chapel	50.00	
Jackson Heights	88.57	339.57
Western District		
Friendship	100.00	
Milbournie	23.00	
Mount Zion, Nash County		
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rackly	100.00	
People's Chapel Sunday School	5.00	
Pine Level	150.00	
Piney Grove	30.00	
Pleasant Hill	50.00	
Mrs. Maude Rollins	25.00	
Mr. and Mrs. James Bunn	25.00	
Saint Mary's		
Edward's Real Estate	300.00	
Ada B. Sasser	100.00	
Sherron Acres	425.00	
Rev. and Mrs. Harry Grubbs	22.00	
Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner	125.00	
Unity, Durham	25.00	
Wilson, First	250.00	$1,755.00
Other		
Douglas Skinner, Phone	55.00	

Interest Accrued on Savings	596.58		
Cragmont Rally	1,898.55		
Christmas Cards:			
Mrs. Stephen Coleman (1) box	1.50		
Little Rock (32) boxes	48.50		
Douglas Skinner (4) boxes	6.00	2,606.13	
Total Receipts			5,664.33
Withdrawal From Savings			3,075.00
Total for Which to Account			$10,462.87
Disbursements			
Operational Expenses	$ 355.40		
Black Mountain Fire Department	25.00		
Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Duplicating Machine	368.90		
Free Will Baptist Press	190.08		
John E. Reid, Architect	3,075.00		
Douglas Skinner, Salary	1,000.00		
First-Citizens, Transfer of funds to Savings	2,874.35		
Interest Transferred to Savings	596.58		
Total Disbursements			8,485.31
Balance on Hand February 1, 1978			$ 1,977.56
Earmarked Funds			
Main Building Fund			$51,649.14
General Fund			1,977.56
Total in Bank			$53,626.70

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer
Route 1,
Sims, North Carolina

CRAGMONT RALLY OFFERINGS

Cash from individuals	$ 162.20
Annie Abbott	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Creech	10.00
Daly's Chapel (C. F.)	
Rev. and Mrs. F. C. Futrelle	50.00
Fremont Auxiliary	25.00
Fremont YFA	40.00
Hugo	
Mr. and Mrs. James Eubanks	10.00
Marlboro	
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Chappelear	5.00
Marsh Swamp Sunday School	100.00
Marsh Swamp Church	
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Norville	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Davis	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Boykin	25.00
Rev. and Mrs. A. B. Chandler	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Roney Bunn Sr.	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Lester Fulghum	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Coleman	5.00
Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Boykin	10.00
Mrs. Eula Boyette	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Strother	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. James Hunt Sr.	50.00
Milbournie	
Rev. and Mrs. John R. Williams	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Overman	50.00
Palmer Memorial	
Mrs. Dola Dudley	25.00
Piney Grove (Eastern)	
Mr. and Mrs. Larry J. Crumpler	15.00
Piney Grove Youth Rock-A-Thon, Pitt County (Central)	657.35
Pleasant Hill (Western)	100.00
Pleasant Hill Sunday School	25.00
Pleasant Hill Youth	39.00
Pleasant Plain (Western)	
Mr. and Mrs. James Burgess	10.00
Rev. and Mrs. Raymond Sasser	10.00
Reedy Branch	
Rev. and Mrs. Willis Wilson	10.00
Rocky Mount	
Shiloh	
Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Singleton	5.00
Ryan Woolard	10.00
Soundside YFA	130.00
Spring Hill (Western)	
Rev. and Mrs. William Dale	100.00
Stancil's Chapel YFA	30.00
Wilson, First	
Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Skinner	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Watson	5.00
Total Receipts	$1,898.55

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer
Route 1
Sims, North Carolina 27880

CRAGMONT TREASURER'S CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mrs. A. B. Chandler, treasurer for Cragmont Assembly, Inc., has changed from P. O. Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina to Route 1, Sims, North Carolina 27880.

WILL YOU WALK FOR CRAGMONT?

The Bethany Free Will Baptist Church youth groups are having a Walk-A-Thon on Saturday, March 4, 1978. All proceeds are to go to Cragmont for the Chapel Building Fund.

Anyone interested in walking for Cragmont or sponsoring a walker please call Ed Rouse at 756-3697 after 6 p. m.

Bethany church is five miles west of Winterville on Highway 903.

NOTICE

The Woman's Auxiliary of Victory Free Will Baptist Mission held its installation of officers on Sunday, January 29. Mrs. R. H. Jackson of Clinton gave the charge inspiring them on to further God's work. She was very proud and pleased of the growth of our mission and auxiliary.

The officers were as follows: President, Edna Fowler; vice-president, Margaret Reep; recording secretary, Betty Ellis; treasurer, Mamie Yerry; assistant treasurer, Louise Wallace; prayer, program chairman, Wilma Hall; corresponding secretary, Dora Hall; assistant correspondent secretary, Tina Wallace; benevolence committee, Ernestine Bennett; assistant benevolence, Sarah Davis; flower chairman, Margaret Thomas; pianist, Lora Hall.

Dora Hall
Corresponding Secretary

the Sunday School LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For March 5

AWAITING THE PROMISE

Lesson Text: Acts 1:1-14
Memory Verse: Acts 1:8

I. INTRODUCTION

For many people, the most difficult thing in the world to do is to wait. They bite their nails, pace the floor, worry and fret, or quiver in fear of some catastrophic event. These people are more than bundles of nerves. Some odd combination of curiosity, fear, restlessness, dissatisfaction, and undue concern wells up within them, and every moment of suspense is an extreme of impending joy or gloom.

God doesn't want to us to live like that. Time spent waiting can be most beneficial if we use it properly. It gives us occasion to plan, to meditate, and to pray. If something doesn't fall precisely into the place we assign it at the precise moment we think it should, let's not get too impatient. The altered circumstances may result in great benefit to us.

As Jesus was to ascend into Heaven He left the disciples with some waiting instructions: they were to go to Jerusalem and wait until His plans for them were made unmistakably clear. Although we might have predicted that they would be mystified, indecisive, or even gravely anxious, they did what they had been told to do, and this is to their credit.

The disciples were told everything they needed to know in order to anticipate the unknown. Far more than merely exciting their curiosity, Jesus gave them a concrete promise: they would be given great power from on high—power that would be theirs only after patient, obedient waiting for an unspecified period of time, but in a designated place (Luke 24:49).

The key to profitable waiting in God's scheme of things is to live expectantly. Try to imagine yourself as a part of this small band of people, living for ten days in a marvelous expectancy. You have been given a promise you do not understand; but you have undiluted confidence in the One who has given the promise.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. All of the lessons for this quarter are taken from the first twelve chapters of the Book of Acts. This is the only authentic history of the Early Church in existence. We who love the church should make a careful study of this book. We suggest that you read these first twelve chapters several times during this quarter of study.

B. Luke wrote the third Gospel and this Book of Acts; he was a physician. In this Book of Acts he tells the story of the beginning of the formation of the church, the body of Christ.

C. In the short space of the few verses we study, we have the passion, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus, and the promise of the Second Coming.

D. Acts 1:8 is the key to the whole Book of Acts; it is the plan of the entire book. As you read Acts note how the gospel spreads from Jerusalem to the uttermost parts of the earth.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Patience, obedience, faithfulness to God's revealed commands, and complete dependence on God for strength and power.

B. The church is to witness to the resurrection and saving power of Jesus to all the world. The ability and power to fulfill this task is made possible by the presence of the Holy Spirit.

C. God can use anyone who is willing to follow and obey Him regardless of his background, personality, or ability. Anyone can make a contribution to the growth of the kingdom of God.

D. Jesus left visibly and in the clouds. When He returns, it will also be visibly from the clouds, but much more dramatically. Every eye shall behold Him. There will be no doubt about His authority or intent. At His return He will be accompanied by angels and saints.

E. Our Lord does not want us to become more concerned about the study of prophecies than our obedience to Him at this time. There is nothing more important for the child of God than obedience to the Word and will of God at this very minute.

F. Could it be that we receive little from God because we are not prepared to receive the bounty of His promises? If this is true we are denying ourselves the very blessings we most need. This is a shortsightedness that can bring spiritual deprivation. Don't let unpreparedness rob you of God's best.

G. To stand idle is one thing; to wait expectantly is quite another. The difference is found in one word: purpose. When that purpose is to fulfill the will of God, waiting becomes a time of joyous prayer, planning, and anticipation. So it was with the band of disciples awaiting the fulfillinent of Jesus' promise.

H. Surely we have learned enough of the power of Christ to await expectantly all His promises to us. Nothing should cause us to shake our heads in uncertainty when Christ speaks to our hearts through His Word.

—Selected

True patience
means
waiting without worrying.

• • •

Patience is accepting
a difficult situation
without giving God
a deadline to remove it.

• • •

Patience
is the best remedy
for most trouble.

• • •

Don't force issues.
Learn to wait
and be patient.



story corner

THE TABERNACLE

LAST week we learned how Moses asked the people for gifts of materials to be used in making God's house. The people were willing and brought more than enough.

God had given Moses a list of people who were to do certain jobs, but everyone who was willing to work was given something to do. The linen thread which they had brought from Egypt must be dyed and woven. The goats' hair and sheep's wool must be spun into thread and woven into cloth. The skins must be tanned and sewed together to form a waterproof cover. The trees must be cut and carved for tables, ark, altar, and laver. There were also wooden frames for the wall and the tabernacle.

Gold jewerly must be melted and shaped to cover the altar and other decorations. Silver must be melted and used for other decorations and fashioned into hooks for the curtain walls.

Bronze must be melted and formed into bases to hold the wooden frames of the court wall.

Dishes and candlesticks must be made of gold. There was plenty of work for all.

The tabernacle must be made so that it could be moved along with the caravan of Hebrews as they journeyed to Canaan.

First, let us take a look at the tabernacle itself. Then we will see the court around it and the wall.

The tabernacle was made of wooden frames standing in bases of silver to hold them upright. These boards were carved with golden decorations. Over these frames linen curtains of red and purple were stretched. They were fastened tightly together by blue loops over gold buttons so that they can be taken apart to be moved. One frame was left with a loose curtain to be used as a door.

There were two rooms in the tabernacle separated by a beautiful curtain from wall to wall and ceiling to floor. It was embroidered with gold and silver.

As one went into the tabernacle to the first room, he could see the huge golden candlestick. It was made of a tall gold column which had six arms of gold. On the top of each arm and the gold column were almond-shaped bowls which held the oil and wicks which were used for light.

On the right was the table used for shewbread. Each tribe or family brought a fresh loaf of bread every Sabbath and placed it on the table as an offering to God.

The table was made of wood covered with gold. It was about three feet long and one and one-half feet wide. There were four golden rings hooked at the corners. Poles covered with gold were put through these rings to carry the table as the caravan was traveling.

On this table were twelve gold plates for the bread of each tribe. The priests were allowed to eat this bread, but no one else.

Just in front of the curtain which divided the tabernacle stood a small wood table which was overlaid with gold. This was the altar of incense. On this altar were the golden bowls of spiced oil. They were shaped like the lamp bowls on the candlestick, with wicks of cloth which were lighted. As the oil burned, the whole tabernacle was filled with a sweet smell of the spices in the oil.

Also on this altar were the gold jars of sacred oil. This oil was poured on things and people which were being dedicated to God. For example, when a man took vows as a priest, he was anointed with the sacred oil. Later on when God chose Saul to be the first king of the Hebrews, he was anointed by the priest with the sacred oil to show that he dedicated his life to God as he ruled over God's people.

These three things were the only pieces of furniture in the first room of the tabernacle.

Behind the beautiful curtain was another room. It was called the "Holy of Holies," and no one but a priest was allowed to enter this room, for it was believed that God Himself sat on the place called mercy seat in this room. Only the priests, who kept themselves and their lives pure, were considered good enough to enter the room where God's spirit sat.

Let me describe this room.

The walls were almost the same as those in the other rooms. The frames of wood stood in silver bases covered with red and purple linen. The women had done a beautiful job of weaving this material. Woven on the red background was a purple picture. It was a picture of a cherubim. We saw the cherubim in another place also. It was on each side of the only piece of furniture in the room, the ark which held the stone tables given by God.

One difference we noticed in the curtains of the wall and ceiling. These were embroidered with gold and silver. The ones in the other room were not. The purple cherubim was the only decoration on these.

Now let me tell you about the ark and mercy seat.

The ark was a wooden box covered with gold which had been hammered into a decorative pattern. The box was about forty-five inches long and twenty-seven inches wide and deep.

About halfway down the corners of the ark were golden rings. These were used to carry the ark. Wooden poles covered with gold were placed through these rings and the priests carried these poles on their shoulders.

The other furniture of the tabernacle could be carried by other Hebrews. But only the priests were considered pure enough to touch the sacred ark. They could touch only the poles. There is another story of two priests who tried to touch the ark, itself, and they died at once.

The top of the ark was called the mercy seat, where God's spirit was thought to sit. This was decorated very beautifully with gold. The sides of this seat were two huge golden cherubim.

Now let me tell you about the cherubim. They were golden creatures with bodies which look very much like a ferocious lion. But they had a human head, and coming from their backs were huge wings. These wings were not

(Continued on Page 15)

Family Devotions

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26
Scripture Reading—Psalm 30:4

"I'D RATHER HAVE JESUS!"

Shortly after the Normandy invasion a chaplain's assistant sat at the organ console in one of France's famous cathedrals. The strains of "I'd Rather Have Jesus" drifted through the windowless edifice to reach the ears—and hearts of jeep-riding GI's and the French peasants as they stopped to listen. Another organ—this time at Bauxweiller, France, and the one used by the famous physician and concert organist, Albert Schweitzer—played by the same chaplain's assistant, also responded to the simple strains of "I'd Rather Have Jesus." In a letter to Beverly Shea, the soldier closed with, "I wanted you to know how wonderful I think your song is and to let you know that churches in France and Germany have heard it re-echo through their sacred halls."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Shouldn't a Christian sing "I'd Rather Have Jesus"? What else could he have so wonderful? Yes, he will want to show the world of Jesus' great love.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27
Scripture Reading—Job 29:13

NO SINGING

When the noted agnostic Robert Ingersoll died, the printed funeral notices said, "There will be no singing." Look not for hymns, anthems, oratorios, carols, and spiritual songs among infidels, agnostics, or skeptics. Without God, without Christ, without redemption, without a divine revelation, and without hope, what have they to sing about?

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wouldn't it be a dull world, if there were no singing? Singing makes the world more joyful and a wonderful place to live.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:24

A DOG IN HIS SERVICE

A remarkable incident occurred in connection with an encampment of Shantung soldiers located at Shanghai. One day a dog wandered into this camp with some leaves of a book in his mouth. The soldiers caught the dog and read the fragment of the book. It was a portion of the Word of God. They became much interested, and followed the dog to a Christian hospital nearby and asked for more of this kind of literature. This was, of course, gladly given to them. As a result , Dr. Goforth and a Chinese evangelist visited this camp, and two hundred men were enrolled as inquirers. If God can so use the mouth of a dog to deliver His Word, can He not use you and me?

PRAYER THOUGHT

Who would have ever thought that a dog could be used to carry the Word of God? Doesn't God work in strange ways?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
Scripture Reading—Luke 3:11

IS IT TRUE SELF-DENIAL?

One morning, as Harry and his parents were sitting at the breakfast table, Harry seemed to be for a while engaged in deep study. Presently he exclaimed, "Father, I have made up my mind not to eat any more salt mackerel."

"Ah, what has brought you to that conclusion?" asked his father, with a look of earnest inquiry.

"Because," continued Harry, "my Sunday school teacher said that we ought to give up something so that we might have money to put in the missionary box."

"Well, but what has induced my boy to choose salt mackerel as the thing he will give up?" asked his father.

"Why," answered Harry, "because mackerel doesn't come very often; and I don't like it very much anyhow."

Have there been some older folk who have tried to practice self-denial in about the same way?

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we try to give God second best? We should always give Him first place in our hearts. He will give us first place in His heart.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2
Scripture Reading—Romans 15:1

WANTING WHAT WE SHOULD NOT HAVE

I once heard of a spoiled child who was in a dreadful fit of temper because his nurse would not let him have a valuable vase from the cabinet. Hearing him crying loudly, his mother went into the room and asked, "What do you want, darling?" Said the boy, "I want that!" pointing to the vase. "Yes, darling, you shall have it," said the mother unwisely, but wishing to make him happy. But when she put it before him the child simply lifted up his voice and yelled afresh. "Why, what do you want—I want," said the boy between his sobs, then the words came out with a rush, "I want to have something that I mustn't." So the forbidden tree had a fatal attraction for Eve.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we sometimes find ourselves wanting something that we should not have? Do we find ourselves yielding to Satan? If we do, we should turn out hearts and souls to God.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3
Scripture Reading—Acts 1:11

WHAT WOULD HE SAY?

If He should come to-day
And find my hands so full
Of future plans, however fair,
In which my Saviour has no share,
What would He say?
If He should come to-day
And find my love so cold,
My faith so very weak and dim
I had not even looked for him.
What would He say?
If He should come to-day
And find that I had not told
One soul about my Heavenly Friend
Whose blessings all my way attend,
What would He say?
If He should come to-day
Would I be glad, quite glad?
Remembering that He died for all
And none through me had heard His call,
What would He say?

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wouldn't God be disappointed if He were here and you weren't doing the command of Jesus? Aren't you suppose to tell others of His love.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4
Scripture Reading—Matthew 24:42

HE STAYED, AND WAITED, AND WATCHED

A little boy was told by his father to wait on a corner by a department store, while the father had a tire changed on his car. It turned out that the car required more attention than the man had anticipated, and it took over an hour. The father anxiously hurried back to get his little boy, and found the little fellow right where he had told him to stay. He said to the boy, "Did you think your daddy had forgotten about you?" "Oh, no," was the reply, accompanied by a smile of perfect trust, "I knew you would come just as soon as you could. I wasn't a bit worried. I stayed where you told me, and waited, and watched for you." Dear child of God, worried and confused by presentday world events, you, by the grace of your Lord, can be like that little boy. Have a perfect trust in Him, as you await His coming, watching and waiting in perfect obedience to Him. He has the "times and seasons" in command.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Doesn't it pay to wait for God and trust Him? Why do people obey Satan? God doesn't like that. You should have patience and wait on the Lord to show you the right way.

Devotions used by permission *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

NEWS NOTES

Revival Announced at Dilda's Grove Church

Revival services will begin at Dilda's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, near Fountain, March 6 and will continue through March 10. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 p. m. with the Rev. Danny Braswell of Saratoga as the evangelist.

The pastor, the Rev. Luther Bissette, and the church membership extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend.

Youth Sunday and Revival Robert's Grove Church

On Sunday, February 26, Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, will observe youth Sunday. The young people will be in charge of all the activities for the day. All officers and teachers will be young people. The speaker for the worship service will be Miss Laura Dail.

On Monday night, March 6, revival services will begin at the church. The evangelist will be the Rev. C. F. Bowen, pastor of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro. The revival will continue through Friday night, March 10, and services will begin each night at 7:30 p. m.

The church membership and its pastor, the Rev. A. B. Bryan, extend to everyone a very warm invitation to come and worship.

Cabin Church Revival Now In Progress

Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Beulaville, is now holding revival services which began on Monday night, February 20, and are continuing through February 24. Prayer room is opening at 7:15 with services beginning at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Joe Ingram, director of foreign missions, is the guest speaker with the Rev. William Littleton, pastor, assisting.

Special singing is being featured each evening. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival Now in Progress At Victory Mission

Victory Free Will Baptist Mission, Highway 59 and Orchard Street, Hope Mills, is now holding its revival. It began February 20, and is continuing through February 24. Services begin each evening at 7:30 with the Rev. Johnnie Bullman of Spartanburg, South Carolina, as the evangelist. Special music will be featured throughout the week.

Story Corner

(Continued from Page 13)

folded but spread out. One wing of the cherubim on the right of the mercy seat touched the wing of the cherubim on the left of it. It made the whole thing look much like a golden throne. The cherubim represented invisible creatures which guard the holy ark.

The mercy seat was actually the top of the ark. It opened. Inside were the two stone slabs which Moses took to the top of the mountain. On these slabs, or tablets, God had carved the ten major laws which the Hebrews used as their rules of life. These stones had been touched by God's own hand and were too sacred for any man to touch. Moses was the only man ever to touch them. He placed them in the ark when it was finished. No man ever again touched them.

We have looked at the tabernacle. But we did not mention how the beautiful material of the walls and ceilings were protected from the sun which would fade them and the rain which would rot them.

The workers had taken animal skins and tanned them into fine leather. These skins were sewed together into a huge tarpaulin which was stretched over the top of the tabernacle as a tent. It was fastened by means of brass pegs and lather ropes all around. The whole thing looked like a leather tent.

Next week we will look at the uncovered court around the tabernacle and the priest, their clothes and their duties. —**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

A Critical Role For the Protestant Minister

(Continued from Page 6)

Relationships in the Home! As pastor, he will not be much help or comfort to those with family problems, if he cannot work out his own family problems. He must be "pastor" to his own family.

Having direct relationships with his role as family man is his ability as administrator and organizer within his home. If he cannot effectively administrate and organize his family life and effectively share responsibilities with his own family, chances are he will be ineffective in this area of church life.

The minister must be careful to lead his family in worship as he does his congregation. To impress on others the value of prayer, family alters or daily Bible study, the minister's own home must be an example of these qualities of life. The minister's conduct as a family man will either discredit or give validity to the rest of his ministry. It is probably the most significant role because it will by and large determine his attitude, degree of emotional and spiritual maturity and his trustworthiness as a person in the eyes of his congregation.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUES

MT. ZION FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

NEAR ROPER

MARCH 11, 1978

Convention Theme: "Close Encounters With Christ"

Convention Scripture: "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded" (James 4:8).

Convention Song: "Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

9:30	Registration Free $10	
10:00	Chorus Singing	Mrs. Margaret Ard
	Devotions	Piney Grove League
	Welcome	Mt. Zion League
	Response	Christian Chapel
10:15	President's Remarks	The Rev. Jack Mayo
	Appointment of Committees	
10:20	Christian Cadet Conference Report	
	The Rev. Tommy Evans	
	Hymn	
10:30	State Sword Drill	Mrs. Judy Conner, Director
10:50	Chorus Singing	
11:00	Business Session	
	Awarding of Certificates	
11:30	Singspiration	Miss Leah McGlohon, Director
11:50	Worship Service	Diane Riley
12:30	League Song	
	League Benediction	
	Lunch	

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the free will baptist

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MARCH 1, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



The greatest sermon is often seen through the eyes of a child . . .



Tommy Manning
Editor

Editorial . . .

Cover Photo by Camerique

MINI-TORIALS

Attention

A single, unattractive little bird perched on a frozen tree limb prompted me to consider the loneliness some people must feel. Certainly there are those who choose to live apart—away from the crowd—content to be by themselves. But others must crave, yea, even cry out for attention and concern. You don't have to search them out; they are usually close by. Look around yourself; and should you see someone who appears to need a friend, be one to him. Better still, be a friend to all people, whether or not they appear to be in need.

Difference

A professor at a nearby university presented a program on being different. He projected the idea that many persons avoid and even detest those who decide that they will be different. His topic was nonconformity.

The Ph.D. is known for his out-spoken attitude and his freedom of expression in speech and attire. A highly intelligent man, with outstanding credentials (according to all reports), he does not present himself in a fashion that is usually thought of as "acceptable." He does not fit the stereotyped college professor image; in fact, he looks very much like our mental picture of the proverbial bum.

His recent lecture revealed the fact that most people judged him by his outward look and ascribed to him numerous derogatory names. While we do not condone or advocate his manner, we can learn a lesson from him.

God judges the inner man—the heart and soul. Once the heart and soul are ordered properly, other things will fall into place. Our *difference* will be of another nature.

Strength

It has been said that the weakest man alive is strong on his knees. Here is where the battery is charged. Here is where ammunition is found and courage is reinforced. Here is where a man becomes a real man and is able to act like one.

The smallest and most powerless person in the world becomes a strong giant with the Lord by his side! As we have been taught, Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint in prayer on his knees. Sometimes we need reminding.

Will

Will is a special capacity by which a person translates his desires and ideas into actions. It cannot, however, be restricted to mean the intent of one's mind only, for there are several factors which enter into deciding to do or not to do something. Our habits, interests, and wants promote our "willing" to do or not to do this or that.

If we allow God to control our habits, direct our interests, and discipline our desires, we will not "will" anything that is not His will. The natural, selfish, stubborn will of man can and should be yielded to the Father. Therein is happiness.

A Thought

Love shines its brightest when it is directed away from the self. Have you thought to tell anyone "I love you" today? Try it and foster even more of that warming, heart-filling emotion.

Conviction

The greatest sermon I've ever seen was through the eyes of a child . . . .

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MARCH 1, 1978

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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NOTHING LIKE A FRIEND

by Woodrow Hill

IT has long been understood that angels are good companions in adversity, but that nothing takes the place of friends when human warmth and sympathetic understanding are needed. Just as we are restless without the knowledge of God's presence in our lives, so we experience incompleteness until we are complemented by the assurance of human friendship.

Yet, one of the most evasive fulfillments longed for in the human breast is met by frustration in that grawing hunger for friends who are genuine. Counterfeits are available in abundance, especially in times of popularity, but not many know how to give themselves without expecting more in return.

When a prominent personality was interviewed on television he was asked if he had many friends. Reflecting for a moment on the question he responded, "No!" Then he hastily probed the thinking of both his audience and his interviewer with another question, "Does anyone?" The query, forthright and honest, was a perceptive revelation not only of His thinking, but also the experience of the one interviewed.

A genuine friend requires only warmth and responsiveness from the relationship. Nothing else. He seeks no gifts, no service, and no contact except fate and convenience afford. The unselfish relationship is not damaged through the lapse of time, even the span of a life, though neither has seen or been in touch with the other during the interim. When fate dictates the crossing of paths again, that same quality of warmth and understanding previously experienced is reaffirmed in jubilance, and enjoyed with the same intensity as before. No Christmas cards, telephone calls, personal visits, birthday remembrances, or even expressions of sympathy were necessary to preserve the relationship. While the quality of caring is always encapsulated in the experience, the knowledge of its presence requires no words or human expression apart from that warmth of spirit which is always present in true friendship. Since it is a quality of trust which neither requires nor desires a contract, it is understandable that most people have very few friends, though their public image may appear otherwise.

At the height of the career of Edgar Allen Poe, between the writing of "The Raven" and the time when illness and poverty overtook him, he was described as "a lion in the gatherings of the literati." All this notwithstanding, it is asserted that during the time there could be counted only two or three who were his close friends. Following his death a biographer wrote that he had left few friends.

The Roman idea of friendship is symbolized by a maiden whose head is crowned with myrtle and pomegranate flowers. In her hand she holds two hearts chained together, and on the fringe of her tunic is written, "Life and Death." On her forehead is engraved, "Summer and Winter." With her right hand she points to her left side, and over her heart are inscribed the words, "From Near and Far."

While the eloquent imagery does not tell the whole story of true friendship, it grasps something of the Biblical concept of the experience. The Book of Proverbs pictures the genuine relationship of friends as something which is complementary and perpetual in spite of adversity. "A friend loveth at all times," declared Solomon, and he later added that "there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother" (Proverbs 17:17: 18:24). "Iron sharpeneth iron," he said, "so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend" (Proverbs 27:17).

Many are incapable of experiencing this quality of friendship, and they are much the poorer for passing through life without knowing the joy of either giving or receiving it.—**The Biblical Recorder**



SUNDAY, MARCH 5

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 6:11

GRANDMOTHER'S TRANSLATION

A young man was home from the theological school to visit his grandmother. To have a bit of fun at her expense, he said, "Grandmother, you know the Bible that you say you believe was written in Hebrew and Greek. It had to be translated by great scholars into our language. How do you know those who translated it got it right?" "Ah," she answered, "never mind the great men. I have translated a few of the promises myself!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you read the Bible each day? It is a great way to learn about God, because it is God's Word. It has been translated in many languages.

MONDAY, MARCH 6

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 1:5

THE DOCTOR'S DOG

There was once an English doctor whose dog always accompanied him when he made the round of visits to his patients. One night when he was called to see a dying man, the dog followed him into the house. The doctor went into the sickroom, closing the door behind him, leaving the dog in the hall outside. The sick man, realizing that death was very near and being unprepared to die, said to the doctor, "Doctor, how can we know what lies beyond death?"

The doctor, taken off guard by the unexpected question, yet being a Christian man and desiring to help the patient paused for a moment to think how best to answer. Just then there was a noise at the door. The little dog was sniffing at the crack and scratching on the closed panels. This gave the doctor an idea.

He said, "My little dog is outside. He followed me into the house, and I left him behind when I came into this room. He doesn't know what's here; he has never been into the house and certainly never into this room; but he wants to come in because he knows I am here and he loves and trusts me. We may not know a great deal about what lies beyond the door of death; but if we love God and trust Him, knowing He is there, we need have no fear of going where He is."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God has promised those who love Him that He will have a place prepared for them in Heaven when we die; therefore we should have no fear because He will be there.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 32:17

DROPPING THE BURDEN

A Negro, carrying a bag of potatoes on his back, was asked by a skeptic:

"How do you know you are saved?"

The Negro took a few steps and then dropped the bag. Then he said:

"How do I know I have dropped the bag? I have not looked around."

"No," replied the man. You can tell by the lessening of the weight."

"Yes," went on the Negro, "that is how I know I am saved. I have lost the guilty feeling of sin and sorrow, and have found peace and satisfaction in my Lord and Saviour."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we as Christians feel like we have dropped the burdens of this life upon Jesus? He cares for us. Why shouldn't we love Him?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 8:3

SCIENCE CATCHING UP WITH BIBLE!

Observe some of the belated discoveries of science:

1. The "north" above our earth is "empty." The Bible flashed out this fact 3460 years ago: Job 26:7;

2. "Air has weight." The Bible flashed this into radio land 3460 years ago; Job 28:25;

3. "Earth must balance." The Bible gave this information 2650 years ago: Isaiah 40:12;

4. "Earth hangs on nothing." The Bible told this 3460 years ago: Job 26:7;

5. "Stars do not deviate in their courses." The Bible flashed this fact 3236 years ago in this phrase: "The stars in their course": Judges 5:20;

6. Science: "Sand keeps the ocean in." Bible: "The sea is bound in by sand and cannot pass it": Jeremiah 5:22.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God is smarter than man, because it was He who created the earth not man. Man was made by God.

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

Scripture Reading—Matthew 4:4

HOW READEST THOU?

A young lady, asked by her friend to explain what is meant by devotional reading of the Bible, made answer as follows:

"Yesterday morning I received a letter from one to whom I have given my heart and devoted my life. I freely confess to you that I have read that letter five times, not because I did not understand it at the first reading, nor because I expected to commend myself to the author by frequent reading of his epistle. It was not with me a question of duty, but simply one of pleasure. I read it because I am devoted to the one who wrote it.

"To read the Bible with the same motive is to read it devotionally, and to one who reads it in that spirit it is indeed a love Letter."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should never get tired of reading the Bible, because it is God's Word. We should love it more each time we read it.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

Scripture Reading—Psalm 68:11

THE SAFE COMPASS

A country lad, who was about to leave his Sunday school and friends to go up to the Metropolis to take a situation there, was accompanied to his starting place by a Christian friend, who kindly said to him: "Now, my boy, recollect you are going to launch your craft on a dangerous ocean."

"Yes, I know it," said the boy; and taking a Bible out of his pocket, and holding it up, he added, "but you see I have got a safe compass to steer by." The guide of young Timothy is still the best guide of youth (2 Timothy 1:5; 2:1).

PRAYER THOUGHT

We can have a safe compass by reading God's Word. He will help us in times of trouble, grief, or temptation just to name a few. Jesus can help lead us in the right direction.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 30:5

ALL IN THE BIBLE

"The religious knowledge of too many adults resembles, I am afraid, the religious knowledge of little Eve," said Bishop Hoss at a Nashville picnic.

"So you attend Sunday School regularly?" the minister said to little Eve.

"Oh, yes sir."

"And you know your Bible?"

"Oh, yes, sir."

"Could you perhaps tell me something that is in it?"

"I could tell you everything that's in it."

"Indeed," and the minister smiled. "Do tell me, then."

"Sister's beau's photo is in it," said little Eve, promptly, "and ma's recipe for vanishin' cream is in it, and a lock of my hair cut off when I was a baby is in it, and the ticket for pa's watch is in it."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we use the family Bible for a place to collect treasures of the family for memories? Wouldn't it be wonderful if we remembered all the treasures inside God's Word.

Devotions used by permission *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

EUROPEAN TRIP SCHEDULED JUNE, 1978

Mr. and Mrs. Claude H. Moore of Mount Olive College are hosting a 15-day trip to Europe, leaving on June 13. The tour will include the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, France and Belgium. The group will fly with Dutch Air Lines from New York. A bus with driver and professional English speaking guide will pick the group up in Amsterdam and will remain with them for the entire tour. The Moores have carried many groups to the British Isles and Europe during the years. There are still a few vacancies, and Free Will Baptists in North Carolina will be given priority. The Moores may be contacted at Mount Olive College.

ATTENTION! EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH SPONSORS

Greetings in Jesus' name. The report blank has been mailed for our Spring Convention which will meet Saturday, March 18, at 10 a. m. at the Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill. If you do not receive yours, you may get one at the convention.

Each youth group (YFA, AFC, Cherub, etc., $1 per group) must pay the registration fee in order to be a voting member of the Eastern District Youth Convention. One-half of the fee is sent to the state youth convention, and the other half is used for our convention expenses.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you. We need you. God bless you. Please pray for the convention.

In His service,
Margaret Ard
Eastern District
Youth Chairman

STUDY COURSE GIVEN

Those of you who failed to attend our study course on prayer, given at Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church on January 28, missed a real challenge. We had a great day studying, worshiping and fellowshipping at the close of our study course. Our speakers were just great. You that were not present truly missed a blessing.

We have so much to be thankful for in our Eastern District. I know we have some of the best Christian women anywhere, they are always ready to do what ever they can to lift Christ up.

There were 60 women present representing 15 churches. We thank each one that came.

I would like to encourage each auxiliary to be sure to have your study courses. We progress as Christians by the amount of enlightenment we possess.

Paul wrote to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Mrs. Woodrow McCoy
Study Course Chairman,
Eastern District

THE LORD HAS NEED OF IT

Peter lent a boat,
To save Him from the press;
Martha lent her home,
With h
With busy kindliness.

One man lent a colt,
Another lent a room;
Some threw down their garments,
And Joseph lent a tomb.

Simon lent his strength,
The cruel cross to bear;
Many brought their spices,
His body to prepare.

What have I to lend?
No boat, no house, no lands;
Dwell, Lord, within my heart.
I put it in Thy hands.

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: What was the reason why Judah had to go into Babylonian captivity?

Answer: The chief reason was disobedience to God and His covenant. Here is some that Daniel said in his prayer to God on behalf of Israel while Daniel was a prisoner of war or captive in Babylon: "We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments: Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all countries whither thou hast driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee. O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee. To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; Neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before as by his servants the prophets. Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against him. And he hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, by bringing upon us a great evil: for under the whole heaven hath not been done as hath been done upon Jerusalem. As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us: yet made we not our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth" (Daniel 9:5-13).

Here is how Samuel evaluates Saul in his disobedience: "And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which be commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever. But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee" (1 Samuel 13:13, 14); also "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king" (1 Samuel 15:22, 23); "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14); "Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron; Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High: Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and there was none to help" (Psalm 107:10-12).

The remedy for Judah and Israel when they thus sinned and were undergoing was the same that it is for each of us now who are Christians, God said to them and is saying to you and me today, "But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul" (Deuteronomy 4:29).

He wants of His a peculiar people and not an average run of the mill variety as we are seeing in so-called Christendom today. "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel" (Exodus 19:5, 6); "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungoldiness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world: Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:11-14).

The first in a Christian's life is, as Jesus told Nicodemus: "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. . . . That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and wither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit" (John 3:3, 6-8); "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart furvently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever" (1 Peter 1:22, 23).

The sinner today believes on Christ through the influence of the Word of God which he reads or hears through the testimony of one who has read or heard. He believes because he subjects himself to the power of God communicated to him by the reading or hearing. See and read these Scriptures: "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than

any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart'' (Hebrews 4:12); ''For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith'' (Romans 1:16, 17); ''And they said, Belive on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house'' (Acts 16:31); ''That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word'' (Ephesians 5:26); ''Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost'' (Titus 3:5).

George H. Sandison makes these valuable comments in answering a similar question in his **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered:**

''The political cause of the captivity was the repeated revolt of Judah against the power of Babylon. Relying on the help of Egypt, the king broke his promise of fidelity and refused to pay the tribute he had promised to pay. The prophets uttered many warnings against this suicidal course, and still more against the idolatry and accompanying immorality which prevailed. They assured the nation that, beset as Judah was by dangers from her powerful neighbors, she would be safe, if only she would be faithful to God. But the king and people were continually forsaking him and turning to evil courses, until at last God gave them up to their enemies. This was the spiritual cause of the captivity. The neglect of the Sabbatic years, mentioned 2 Chronicles 36:21, was only one of many provocations. The writer mentions it incidentally, to show that the people would not do voluntarily, was done when they were carried away and the land rested seventy years.''

If we should only think as God would have us do; it is much easier to refrain from sinning against God and God's Word than sinning, repenting and coming into fellowship again. Besides this every time we sin there is more for satan to stir up in minds in when he finds us off guard and disobeying. ''Pray without ceasing'' (1 Thessalonians 5:17); ''Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night'' (Psalm 1:1, 2).

Woman's Auxiliary

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 1978

(In the Executive Committee meeting of the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Saturday, February 11, 1978, a resolution was passed that the convention urge Free Will Baptist churches to use vacation Bible school literature written and published by Free Will Baptists. The following article was prompted by the discussion which led to the resolution.)

Since Woman's Auxiliaries were first organized, major emphasis has been placed on training the youth of our church. As a little girl, I remember hearing, ''We must go to Ayden to the Press to purchase materials for Bible school.'' Time for the school was determined by when the public schools closed in the spring. The subject we studied would be determined by what we could find to supplement our study of some book in the Bible.

Often after Bible school material was purchased, our leaders would express the need for literature prepared especially for Free Will Baptists.

At last, the Press Foundation launched a program to prepare Vacation Bible School materials, written and published by Free Will Baptists. In recent years, we have enjoyed the use of this literature and yet we are at liberty to use any supplementary materials we choose.

In order for our literature to be used by as many churches as possible, we must promote the use of it at the workshops and in the Free Will Baptist bookstores.

The theme for Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School this year is ''Precious are His Promises.'' Our own people have given untold hours of study and work to make this literature available. We appreciate their dedication in preparing this literature and we encourage our churches to use the Free Will Baptist Vacation Bible School literature.

Rose M. Raper, Secretary
North Carolina Woman's
Auxiliary Convention

NOTICE TO ALL STATE, DISTRICT, AND LOCAL W. A. ORGANIZATIONS

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. offers the following information:

1. It is the strong desire of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. that our Free Will Baptist churches, Sunday schools, leagues, and woman's auxiliaries use Free Will Baptist literature exclusively.

2. It is also the strong desire of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. that our Free Will Baptist churches, Sunday schools, leagues, and woman's auxiliaries use the services of the Press Foundation and its bookstores for all their supplementary supplies, church furniture needs, and the many other services offered.

3. It is the intend and purpose of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. to serve Free Will Baptists, and at the same time serve the many other Christian groups who patronize us.

4. The advertisement carried on the back page of recent issues of the FREE WILL BAPTIST announcing a workshop on VBS materials published by another publishing company was not intended to draw Free Will Baptists away from Free Will Baptist VBS materials. The truth is that approximately twenty-five percent of our Free Will Baptist churches have been using this material for years, and the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. desires to serve them along with the many non-Free Will Baptists who patronize us. To be of service is the only motive we have.

5. There must be income sufficient to support the endeavors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. Our bills for goods and services, along with salaries and taxes, must be paid. The return on our religious merchandise is the only way we have of supporting our program.

6. It is the strong desire of the management of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. that all Free Will Baptist people pray for us and our work, and patronize us for all religious merchandise needs.

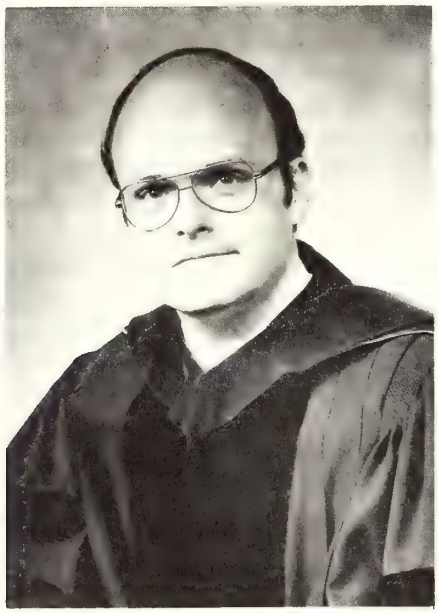
Walter Reynolds, Manager
Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

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DANIEL TO LEAD SEMINAR ON DEATH AND DYING



Dr. John Daniel

Dr. John Daniel, minister of Calypso and Stanford Presbyterian churches, will lead a two night seminar on Death and Dying at Mount Olive College, Monday, March 6; and Monday, March 13: beginning at 7:30 p. m. in Room 213 of the Henderson Building. The public is invited.

Session one will include a biblical description of death with a theological interpretation. Psychological aspects according to the studies on death and life after death conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross, the famous psychiatrist and author will be discussed. Techniques on approaching the dying will also be a topic.

Session two will involve the American funeral process versus the Christian approach. Ways of making death less painful for the family during bereavement will also be a topic for discussion.

Daniel is a native of South Carolina. He received his B. A. degree from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, and later attended Union Theological Seminary in Virginia where he received his Doctor of Ministry degree in 1976.

WHAT ARE STUDENTS SAYING ABOUT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

What does a student look for on a college campus?

The obvious answers are adequate facilities, a sound academic program and a good, well-rounded variety of campus activities.

The goals set at Mount Olive College are to go beyond these obvious requirements and create an atmosphere that makes education a joy, a challenge and a commitment to life through the realization that God has a plan for each and every person.

When prospective students visit the Mount Olive College campus, aside from visiting the classrooms and other facilities, they visit with people; because people are the ingredient that makes the college experience a success.

Since the beginning of 1978 over 100 visitors have toured the Mount Olive College campus, talking with students in the halls, staff and faculty in their offices, and in the classroom. Is Mount Olive reaching its goal?

A letter from a high school senior says, ''Before my visit to your campus, I admit I had some doubts about Mount Olive. On my way home from the College, I was still excited from meeting so many friendly people. The faculty and students are so nice and concerned about each other and even 'newcomers.' I am now happy about my decision to enter Mount Olive College.''

Some students visit the campus after applying for admission but a visit is a revealing experience. Another excerpt is taken from a high school senior's letter: ''I look forward to attending Mount Olive College this fall. Through my visits to the campus and my association with the teachers and directors, I have found that Mount Olive is indeed the College that cares. Enclosed is a check for my confirmation deposit.''

Mount Olive strives to provide a structured opportunity for students to excel in the area of their choosing. A high school junior comments on her experience visiting Mount Olive:

"Thank you for the warm feeling that everyone gave us the day we visited Mount Olive College. I do appreciate the time everyone took in showing us Mount Olive College and especially Mrs. Martin for talking with me about the nursing program. I'm really looking forward to being a part of the family at Mount Olive College in 1979."

Is Mount Olive reaching its goal?

The faculty, staff, and students at Mount Olive College extend an invitation to attend High School Day, Saturday, April 8 beginning at 10 a. m. and judge for yourself. Mount Olive College strives to be "the College that Cares."

MINISTER'S WIFE TELLS ABOUT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



Works After Class—Donna Whitfield works in the Registrar's office on the Mount Olive College campus when she is not in class. She is attending college under the program open to ministers' and ministers' wives.

"College is different now," said Donna Whitfield, wife of Free Will Baptist preacher, Mickey Whitfield. "Not that the College has changed, but I've changed."

Donna attends Mount Olive College under the program open for ministers and their wives. She first came to Mount Olive in 1974 after graduating from Goldsboro High School.

"I dropped out after one year and began working. After Mickey and I got married and settled down in Mount Olive, I realized I didn't want that kind of job all my life," Donna explained.

Donna is now attending Mount Olive College under the ministers' program which makes courses available at a reduced cost. The time not spent in class, she works in the registrar's office on campus.

Donna works closely with registrar, Mrs. Marie Glenn, wife of the Rev. Earl Glenn of First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro.

"Mrs. Glenn has really helped me understand my role as a minister's wife," Donna stated. "She's shared her learning experiences with me, happy, sad, and humorous."

Donna's husband, Mickey, also attended Mount Olive College and is now pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church in Warsaw.

"The church family in Warsaw is so friendly and outgoing, we felt right at home," Donna said.

Mickey and Donna also serve as youth leaders which involves field trips and traveling to monthly youth rallies.

Donna plans to major in elementary education. "My real ambition is to have a professional nursery and keep small children. I just love to watch them learning, because everything is so new and fascinating to them," she said.

"When you come back to college you can really appreciate the opportunities of an education and the programs that make it all possible," Donna said.

After graduation in May, Donna is going to attend Atlantic Christian College.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church, Sunday, March 5, at the 10 a. m. and 11 a. m. worship services.

The Rev. Adrian Grubbs is pastor.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE ON ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT TOUR

The Mount Olive College Concert Choir left Monday on their annual Spring Concert tour.

Under the direction of Mrs. Irene Patten, the Mount Olive College students perform a medley of contemporary, spiritual, and folk songs.

The program schedule began with a morning performance at East Duplin High School in Beulaville, and an afternoon program at North Duplin High School in Calypso.

Tuesday morning the Choir performed at Lucama High School and at Charles B. Aycock outside Pikeville for the afternoon program.

On Wednesday a performance was given at Hobbton High School outside Newton Grove at 10:15 a. m. The students were at Dunn High School at 2 p. m. for an afternoon program.

Following a double performance at 9:30 a. m. and 10:15 a. m. Thursday at East Bladen High School in Elizabethtown, the Choir traveled to Charleston, South Carolina, for a sightseeing tour of the area.

The group returned to Mount Olive on Friday.

"WHAT SCULPTURE IS TO A BLOCK OF MARBLE, EDUCATION IS TO THE SOUL."

By Frank Harrison
Mount Olive College Chaplain

Today Mount Olive College is a dream fulfilled by those who were instrumental in its founding, and continues to be a vital part of our denominational program

Throughout the years there have been sensitive and perceptive spirits among Original Free Will Baptists who saw the need of education among our people, and who felt this need especially for ministers. Mount Olive College was founded by Original Free Will Baptists in response to this need, fulfilling a dream of a college for our youth and our ministers.

(Continued on Page 10)

What Sculpture Is . . .

(Continued from Page 9)

and God's work on earth through the ministry of Christian higher education. As such, one vital aspect of the College is its ministerial training program.

Today, there are 77 churches of our connection being served by ministers who have either completed two years of study or a good portion of it at Mount Olive College. There are five ministers serving full time in the denominational program in various programs. Four others are away in school preparing for full time pastoral ministries. One third of the Free Will Baptist membership of North Carolina is now served by students who attended Mount Olive College.

From its beginning the College has sought to provide for our ministers the programs and training needed to enable them to become the most effective servants of God's Kingdom. Each year ministerial students come to prepare for various callings of ministry.

Through the Supervised Work Program, ministerial students receive the benefit of working under active pastors and at the same time they provide an expanded ministerial service to the local church.

Each year the College provided hundreds of pulpit supply services for churches without pastors or whose pastors are away due to illness, vacations, or other duties. Almost all our present students are filling a pulpit somewhere in eastern North Carolina.

The ministerial training program continues to expand to meet the needs of young ministers preparing for Christian ministry. A wide selection of courses such as ''The Free Will Baptist Church: Its History, Theology, Government and Program'' seek to instill in students a foundation upon which to stand as they seek to serve Christ in His work among Original Free Will Baptists.

ATTENTION

The next meeting of the Revision Committee will be on March 13, 1978, at 10 a. m. until 5 p. m., at Northeast Original Free Will Baptist Church, Mount Olive.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. PHOEBE CAYTON

On November 19, 1977, the Free Will Baptist Church lost one of the most dedicated Christian women I have ever known. She was 88 years old at her death.

Mrs. Phebe Tuten Cayton, of the White Hill community in Beaufort County, was a dedicated member of the White Hill Free Will Baptist Church for more than 70 years. She was a beautiful woman, loved by all who knew her. She was always a joy to be with—always interested in the health and well-being of other people. Although her life was not without heartaches and troubles, she never complained.

Phebe Tuten Cayton was the daughter of the late Fred Grice Tuten, who was a teacher in many eastern North Carolina schools in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Her mother, David Ann Willis, my mother's oldest child, was born during the Civil War. However, her mother died when Phebe was 3 years old and she went to live with her grandparents. This was also my home, and since I was only a little more than a year older, we grew up as sisters.

During the depression, she lived away from White Hill for some time, and when she returned the White Hill Free Will Baptist Church had become inactive. She and her two little girls reorganized the Sunday school, sometimes walking the several miles to the church. Under her leadership, the church grew and soon became active again, with a pastor holding regular services and a large membership.

She devoted her life to her church, family, and friends as long as she was physically able. Her family and mine remained very close through all the years and we miss her very much. It was always a joy to see her coming for a visit.

She had three sons, two of whom predeceased her; two very devoted daughters; 13 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. We all miss her. Truly an Angel on earth, who now walks with God in Heaven.

Marietta D. Willis.

IN MEMORY OF THE REV. WILLIAM MONROE TWIDDY

At sunset on December 22, 1977, the soul of our beloved brother, William Monroe Twiddy, age 67, went to be forever with our Saviour whom he served faithful for so many years.

He was our pastor at Wardens Grove Free Will Baptist Church for 14 years and was not only for us, but everyone who needed him. His last work was a mission of mercy. He died knowing the people as he lived serving them.

Funeral services were conducted in Elizabeth City his hometown on December 24. He is survived by his widow, Betty Sawyer Twiddy; six children; eighteen grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

We miss him very much and will hold his memory dear in our hearts. If he could speak to us today we would hear him say:

I am so happy in heaven, dear ones;
Oh so happy and so bright.

There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,
Every restless tossing passed;

I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in heaven at last.

Respectfully submitted,
Esther Lupton





1978 STATE SWORD DRILL

This is the 1978 State Sword Drill for the State League Convention. It will be held at Roper on March 11. There will be a Junior and Intermediate Drill. The age limit is fifteen and under. I hope that we will have lots to enter this coming year.

In the Topical Drill you may find the words in another passage other than what I have here. If there are any questions on the drill please call or write me.

I. Scripture Searching

Lamentations 5:19
Daniel 12:13
Matthew 7:1
1 John 4:2
2 John 1:11
Jude 1:21
Revelation 1:18
Psalm 23:4
Exodus 1:22
Acts 1:8
Ecclesiastes 1:18
Isaiah 40:8
Zephaniah 1:14
Habakkuk 2:4
Matthew 1:3
John 17:9
Joshua 1:9
Luke 5:17
Proverbs 19:1
Romans 10:9

II. Unfinished Quations

1. Be strong and of good courage: Joshua 1:6
2. Submit yourselves therefore: James 4:7
3. Honor thy father and thy mother: Exodus 20:12
4. Come unto me: Matthew 11:28
5. But seek ye first the kingdom of God: Matthew 6:33
6. That if thou should confess with thy mouth: Romans 10:9
7. Will a man rob God? Malachi 3:8
8. Make a joyful noise: Psalm 100:1
9. I am the true vine: John 15:1
10. It is easier for a camel: Mark 10:25

III. Book Drill

Jeremiah
Zephaniah
Acts
Romans
Ruth
2 Corinthians
Galatians
James
Timothy
Esther
Hebrews
Colossians
Philippians
Ecclesiastes
Joel
Mark
Job
Jonah

IV. Tropical Drill

forgave—Colossians 3:13
spirit—Matthew 4:1
salvation—Revelation 19:1
creation—Mark 10:6
death—James 1:15
babes—1 Corinthians 3:1
loved—John 3:16
prayer—Matthew 21:22
punishment—Matthew 25:46
damnation—John 5:29
Sabbath—Mark 2:27
evil—1 Samuel 16:23
witness—Titus 1:13
worship—Micah 5:13
rejoice—Luke 10:21

V. Names

Sarah—Genesis 21:2
Noah—Genesis 8:1
Adam—Genesis 4:1
Eve—Genesis 4:1
Lord—Revelation 22:21
Herod—Matthew 2:1
Mary—Matthew 1:18
Gentiles—Isaiah 42:6
Moses—Leviticus 11:1
Adram—Exodus 3:15
Isaac—Genesis 25:20
Jesus Christ—Revelation 22:21
God—Genesis 1:1

VI. Doctrinal Drill (Find the Scripture that tells these things.)

1. Tell where God is the beginning and the end. Revelation 22:13.
2. Tells that you know not what hour your Lord doth come. Matthew 24:42
3. Tells that the blessed are the poor in spirit. Matthew 5:3
4. Tells that the Lord is my Shepherd. Psalm 23:1
5. Tell where the Lord told Moses to cast his rod on the ground. Exodus 4:3
6. Tells where God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1
7. Tells where God formed man. Genesis 2:7
8. Tells that God gave His Son to die for us. John 3:16

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Conner
Route 2
Deep Run, North Carolina 28525
Phone, 568-4529

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For March 12

EXPERIENCING THE PROMISE

Lesson Text: Acts 2:1-4, 36-42
Memory Verse: Acts 2:39

I. INTRODUCTION

Our lesson is based on the second chapter of the Book of Acts, one of the most important chapters in the Bible. It records the fulfillment of the promise that God made concerning the coming and baptism of the Holy Spirit. Second, it records the birth of the church. (There are a few who disagree, but the majority of Bible students believe that the church was born on the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came.) Third, this is where the great work of calling out the church really begins. God does the calling and the saving, but it is God's plan to use the church as a witness.

This important chapter contains three basic things: first, the coming of the Holy Spirit in great power, in accordance with God's promise; second, the preaching of the first sermon by Peter; and, third, the great result of Peter's sermon.

God had a wonderful plan to unfold on the Day of Pentecost, ten days after the Ascension of Jesus. The apostles would be His agents, and the redemption of Israel—and all mankind later—would be His objective. He revealed enough details to build up the apostles' confidence; He withheld enough to incite their curiosity.

Today we can read this account in the order in which the prophesied events unfolded. The apostles did not enjoy that advantage, and each new segment of the magnificently conceived plan brought to their minds the utterances that had been foretold them, confirming their faith.

By no means could the apostles have anticipated the marvelous technique God had in mind for imbuing them with His promise of power. They knew only that He would fill them with His Spirit and that this would fit them for a witnessing work throughout the world.

A study of the record of the expansion of the Early Church shows that the promise of power given to the apostles was uniquely realized in them in the events that took place on Pentecost. It was they who received the "tongues like as of fire"—the baptism of the Holy Spirit; it was they who stood among the many thousands of Jewish worshipers, from the widespread nations of the world, to announce that Jesus of Nazareth had not only conquered death by God's power, but that He ascended into Heaven to be the King of the Kingdom of God; it was they who offered God's terms of redemptive pardon; it was they who extended this promise to the children of their hearers and to all peoples throughout the world.

The apostles did not invent this message. Luke carefully records that when they addressed the multitude in a variety of languages they spoke "as the Spirit gave them utterance" (v. 4). Luke also is careful to note the words of Peter telling that the events of the day fulfilled Joel's prophetic words (2:28-32). This is the manner in which God bestowed His Spirit upon mankind.

—Selected

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. This second chapter of Acts is one of the most important chapters in the Bible. It records the fulfillment of God's promise concerning the coming of the Holy Spirit. It contains the birth of the church, which Jesus had said He would build. And it shows the beginning of the church's work as God's witness in the world.

B. Think carefully about the first four verses of this chapter and see what really happened at Pentecost. The Old Testament Scriptures were fulfilled. The church was brought into existence. And, three thousand souls were saved.

C. In the fight after Moses came down from the mountain three thousand souls were slain; on the Day of Pentecost three thousand souls were saved. Under law, men died, under grace, men were saved.

D. Note the difference in the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the filling of the Holy Spirit. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is the work of the Holy Spirit that takes place at the time of conversion; it places the believer in the body of Christ. This takes place only once. The filling of the Spirit comes from complete yielding of his spirit by the believer; it may happen at any time and many times in the life of a believer.

E. There is no indication in Acts 2 that the incidents of Pentecost will ever be repeated. The sights and sounds that took place that day have never reoccurred, and there is no indication that we may expect it today. However, each believer is baptized with the Holy Spirit at the time of his conversion and it is his privilege and the command of God that we be filled with the Spirit.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The church must be extremely concerned about nurturing new believers in the faith. They must be quickly taught and brought into the full ministry and fellowship of the Christian body, and not left to drift and stumble on their own.

B. The heart of Peter's message was Jesus! He first showed that God had approved of Him by the miracles, wonders, and signs He had performed in their very midst. In spite of this He had been rejected and slain. Peter then declared with unquestionable logic that Jesus had fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah. He asserted that God had raised Him up from the dead and placed Him in a position of authority in Heaven. It was the resurrected Jesus, the Messiah, the anointed one of God, who had made possible the outpouring of the Spirit.

C. The results of Jesus' redemptive mission can be shared through faith in



THE FIRST PRIESTS

THE tabernacle was finished two years after the Hebrews escaped from Egypt. During this time they camped in their tents at the foot of the sacred mountain of Sinai. At last it was finished!

Last week we looked at the two-room tabernacle. This was not all. There was also a huge courtyard around the tabernacle. It was not covered with a tent but was left open.

The fence around the courtyard was almost eight feet high. It was made much as the wall of the tabernacle had been. There were wooden frames set in bases to hold them up. These bases were not made of silver but of brass. Over these wooden frames, decorated with gold and silver, there were stretched sheets of the beautifully woven red and purple linen. They were fastened together with gold buttons and blue loops as the other had been.

This courtyard was very large, for on the Sabbath all of the Hebrews gathered here to worship.

Until this time, when a man wanted to worship God, he built a stone altar. But now an altar was built which could be carried with them. It was placed out in the courtyard.

The altar was much like a wooden box which had no top or bottom. There was a metal grate down in the hollow box. On this a fire was always kept burning, even while the caravan was traveling. It was never allowed to go out. A grill was over the top. The animals for the sacrifice were placed there.

Since a wooden altar would burn easily, the altar was covered with a sheet of bronze, on the inside as well as the outside.

This altar was to be used for the sacrifices of animals to God. There were large bronze forks, shovels, basins, pots and fire pans.

The altar was decorated at each corner with bronze horns like the horns of animals.

There were large bronze rings about halfway down the corners for the carrying poles. The altar was over ten feet square, for it must be large enough to sacrifice an animal as large as a calf.

There was only one other thing in the courtyard. This was a huge water basin called a laver. It was made by melting the bronze of all the women's mirrors. They did not use glass mirrors but a bronze, which was kept so shiny that it was a perfect mirror and an unbreakable one.

This laver was kept full of water, for every sacrifice must be clean and the priest must keep his hands very clean while serving before God.

We have taken a look at the first place of worship ever built for God. It took a long time for the Hebrews to build; but it was a beautiful thing. They were very proud of it. As they worked on it they grew closer to God. This is always true. The more of God's work we do, the deeper our love for Him becomes.

At last the wonderful day came when every bit of work was finished. It was all ready to be set into place. Moses told them where each part was to be.

All of the people gathered, for the tabernacle was to be dedicated to God, and the priests were to be dedicated and begin their service.

The people were excited and proud as they watched Moses place the two stone slabs, written on by God's hand, into the ark.

Moses called his brother Aaron. He gave Aaron the special clothes which he would always wear as a priest. First, there was a pure white linen shirt and short pants. Over this went a long blue linen robe. Around the hem of this robe was a border. Embroidered on this border were pomegranates of blue, purple and red between golden bells which tinkled as he walked.

Over this went a vest, called an ephod. It was woven with threads of gold and lined with blue, purple, and red in a pretty design. The vest had straps over the shoulders and a sash which held it around the waist.

Set in the front of this breastplate there were twelve different jewels, one for each of the tribes.

On Aaron's head there was a turban of linen set in a gold crown. At the front of the crown was a small gold plate on which was engraved "Holy to God."

He was also given a checked linen coat which was beautifully embroidered.

This was the way the priest was to dress. As each new priest came into service, his clothes would be copied from the ones Moses gave to Aaron.

Moses called Aaron's four sons. They were to be Aaron's helpers. They were given clothes very much like Aaron's.

The people all watched as Moses set up the altar. But he did not light the fire. Suddenly a cloud covered the entire tabernacle and courtyard. When it lifted, the people saw God had lighted the fire in the altar. This is why it was never allowed to die out. For hundreds of years the same fire was kept burning.

Moses, Aaron and his four sons washed their hands and feet in the laver. Then they went into the tabernacle. Moses took a jar of the holy oil and poured a little on each of the new priests. This was to show they were dedicated themselves to God.

Then Moses poured a little of the oil on the candlesticks, the laver, and the large altar. Each of these was dedicated to be used only in the worship of God.

(Continued on Page 15)

NEWS & NOTES

Revival Announced At Stony Hill Church



The Rev. Fred Rivenbark

Revival services will begin on March 27 and will continue through March 31 at Stony Hill Free Will Baptist Church, 2 miles east of Middlesex. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark of Durham will be the guest speaker. Special music will be provided each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Robert Langley, and members invite all to attend.

Mount Zion Church Honors Birthdays

On Monday evening, January 16, the choir of Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson County, honored the January birthdays of Mrs. Josephine Johnson, church pianist, and the pastor's wife, Mrs. Zona Godwin. Each was remembered with a gift after which everyone enjoyed party snacks and good Christian fellowship.

Revival Announced at Grimsley Church



The Rev. Royce Reynolds

Revival services will be held at Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church, 3 miles west of Maury on highway 903, beginning March 6, and will continue through March 11. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 with special singing being featured. The Rev. Royce Reynolds of Walstonburg will be delivering the message.

The pastor, the Rev. Tom Miller, and members invite all to attend these services.

Revival Services to Be Held at Holly Springs

The Rev. Clyde Cox, pastor of Wilson Free Will Baptist Church, will be the guest speaker for the revival services to be held at Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly. Services will begin March 5 at 7:30 p. m., and will continue through March 10.



The Rev. Clyde Cox

The pastor, the Rev. W. Royster Martin, and the church membership extend an invitation to each of you to attend these services and request that you remember these services in your prayers.

Pin Sunday Observed At Pleasant Plain Church



Pinned Members of Pleasant Plain Church

February 5 was Pin Sunday at Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Selma. The following persons were awarded pins:

First row: Jamie Jones, 10th year; Dale Parker, 9th year; Lettie Best, 7th year; and Valerie Brown, 3rd year.

Second row: Wendy Parker, 15th year; Tammy Jones, 12th year; Kim Burgess, 12th year; and Fonda Jones, 12th year.

Third row: Peggy Jones, 11th year; Faye Parker, 22th year; Johnny Brown, 4th year; D. G. Jones Jr., 12th year; and Cleoth Wall, 37th year.

Fourth row: Durward Jones, 13th year; Lois Jones, 20th year; David Jones, 16th year; Treat Brown, 22th year; and Sherrwood Brown, 9th year. Not pictured was Charles Brown who received his 16th year.

CRAGMONT

I wish to thank all of the different churches who have invited me to speak to them during the past few months concerning Cragmont. I have enjoyed visiting with you and sharing with you about the Lord's work at Cragmont. I still have a few open dates in April if you wish for me to visit your church or church function to represent Cragmont.

Another step has been made in starting on our new main building. The plans have been released to the contractors for a final bid, and we should have this bid in the next few weeks. That means that construction on the building should begin very soon. Praise the Lord! The Cragmont board covets your prayers at this time of decision-making that all things would work for good involving His work.

Now is the time to start planning to attend camp at Cragmont this summer. It will be an experience you will never forget. It can mean a time of spiritual and mental growth as you learn how to apply God's goodness to your life.

Continue to pray for us and for the work of Cragmont Assembly.

In His Service,
Rev. Douglas Skinner
Manager-Promotional Secretary

Coming Events . . .

March 18—Western District Youth Fellowship Spring Convention, Mount Olive College Chapel, Mount Olive, 9:30 a. m.

March 18—Eastern District Youth Convention, Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pink Hill

March 18—Central District Youth Meeting, at 10 a. m., Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville

March 23—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary, Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, 9:30 a. m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page 12)

Jesus as the Christ, repentance from sin, and baptism in the name of Jesus for forgiveness and the gift of the Spirit.

D. The sound of the mighty wind symbolized that breath (spirit) of God that was coming upon the apostles. Very meaningfully it represented the divine power with which they were being vested. The tongues of fire lead us to think of the immediate result of the coming of the Spirit on the apostles—their ability to speak in languages previously unknown to them.

E. Christian fellowship involves spiritual unity and communion and material sharing with one another.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

STORY CORNER

(Continued from Page 13)

Fire was taken from the altar to light the seven lamps of the candlestick and the incense lamps.

The priests and Moses killed a young animal and sacrificed it on the altar. The leader of each of the twelve tribes brought a loaf of bread and placed it on the table.

This was the first day of worship in God's house.

Every day at sunrise the priests would rake the coals in the altar and put fresh wood on the fire. Fire would be carried from the altar to light the candlestick and incense lamps on the small altar. It was God's command that these lamps always be lighted from the altar fire which He had lighted.

One day two of Aaron's sons did not want to carry the fire in from the altar, so they lighted the fire in the candlestick themselves.

God was angry because they had not obeyed Him. They had promised always to obey every command of God when they became priests. Now they had disobeyed. As they tried to light the lamps, they fell dead.

This was a hard lesson for Aaron and the other sons. Moses would not even allow them to touch the dead priests. Some cousins were called in to carry them out and bury them.

Everyone saw that God meant to be obeyed. Not to obey meant death.—**The Story Hour (F. W. B.)**

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Luther Swinson announces that he is available for pastoral and revival services. His new address is Route 1, Box 155-A, Maple Hill, North Carolina 28454. He may be contacted by writing the above address or by phoning 346-8968.

Kings Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, located about 6 miles, from Farmville is looking for a full-time pastor. Anyone interested should contact Mrs. Ronnie E. Little at Route 2, Box 347-C, Farmville, North Carolina 27828; or phone 753-3217 after 5 p. m. during the week.

The Rev. Edgar Benton announces that he is in good standing with the Western Conference and is now available for full or part-time pastoral work. Any church desiring his services may contact him by writing the Rev. Edgar Benton, P. O. Box 395A, Fremont, North Carolina 27830; or phone 242-5283 after 6 p. m.

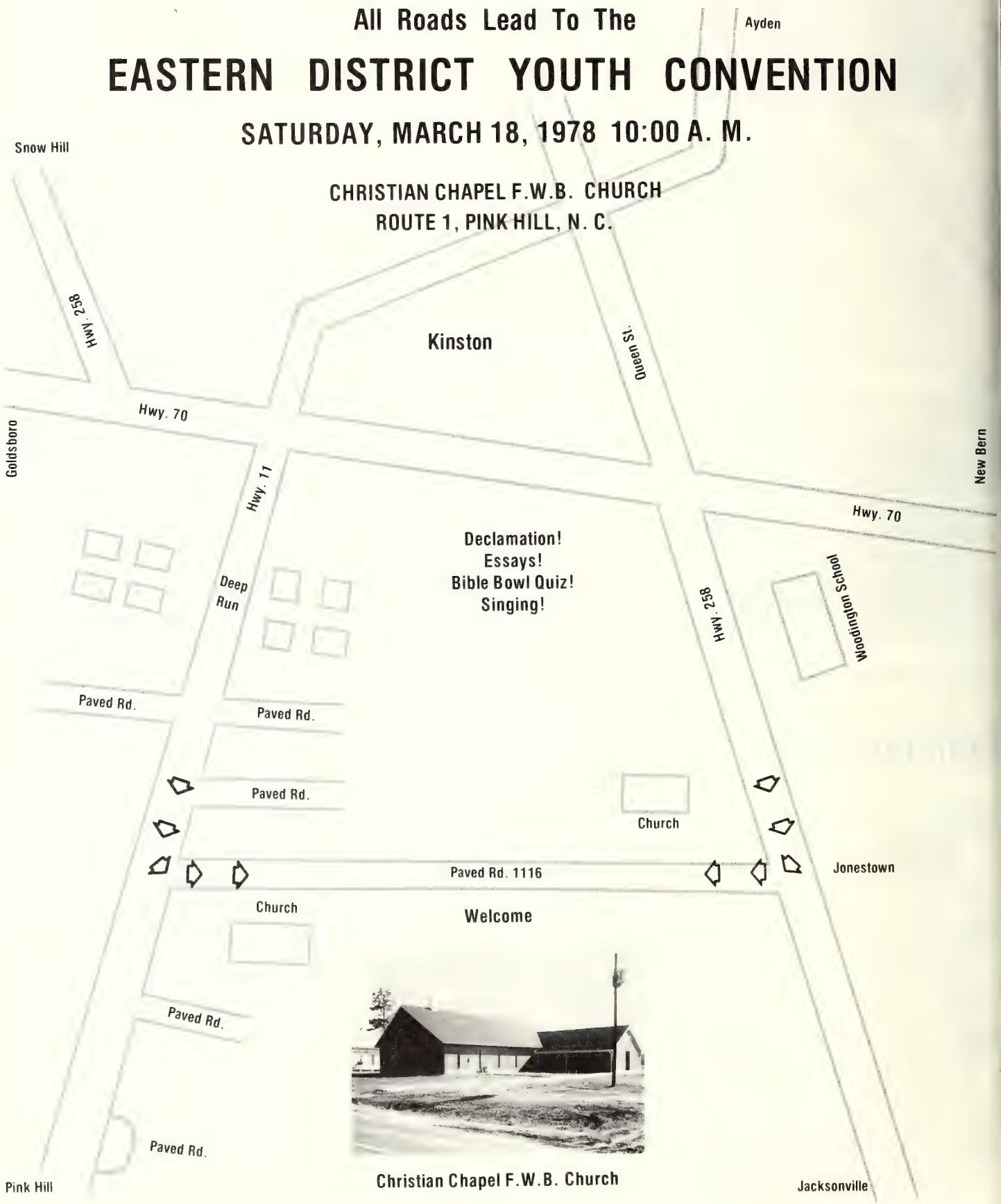
GOD, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; to change the things I can; and the wisdom to know the difference.

All Roads Lead To The

EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH CONVENTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1978 10:00 A. M.

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL F.W.B. CHURCH
ROUTE 1, PINK HILL, N. C.



Christian Chapel F.W.B. Church

F.S.
F857w

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MARCH 8, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA







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emember:
March has been designated by the State Convention Foreign Missions Month. Support your missions ogram.

Cover Photos by Camerique

AND HOW SHALL THEY KNOW?

(March: Foreign Missions Month)

"Souls dying in sin." "Mankind hungering and thirsting after righteousness." "Persons of all ages, nationalities, and cultures groping in darkness—seeking the light." "The pits of Hell gaping open to receive a harvest of unregenerate men." "Heaven's portals, glorious paradise awaits the renewed in heart and spirit: the redeemed, the born-again children of God." These phrases, or similar ones, have become a part of our language experience and frame of reference.

The time we first heard of missions, our hearts and minds probably turned to heathen Africa, the dark continent; to the idol-infested south sea isles; to Asia and its Buddhism, Taoism, and other cults; to the sun worshipers of South America; or to numerous other areas where the love of Christ had not been shown or was unknown.

We've read accounts of selfless missionaries who answered the call to greater service and left the comforts that home, family, and friends afforded, going abroad to share His Word. Even in the face of possible death, knowing they must encounter disagreeable foods, and uncertain housing conditions, they went—and are still going—to spread the light of salvation.

The primary aim of missions in the broadest scope is to bring all to a "saving knowledge" of Christ. We have heard this affirmed in prayer and song; we have heard it voiced from the emotion-filled hearts of missionaries who have returned home for brief visits. Their pleas to send more to work in the field have not always fallen on ready ears; neither have those pleas fallen on deaf ones. People have heard and responded, though not to the extent desired.

The cause of missions has always been important to our denomination, though sometimes not emphasized as greatly as some other programs we support. Be that as it may, the missionary cause is *not* ignored. Perhaps more than ever before in the history of our denomination, mission work is being given the prominence it deserves.

Under the leadership of the Rev. Joseph Ingram and the Board of Foreign Missions, the program has grown steadily. At this time we are involved in mission work in India, the Philippines, Mexico, and Texas; and the possibilities of expansion are unlimited. *But*, support (financial and prayerful) is still necessary. Few of us give until it hurts. It may not be our nature to do so, but if we were to witness, on a firsthand basis, the plights of those who are indeed dying for want of a Saviour, we would take longer and stronger second looks at exactly what we are doing—and accomplishing.

It is easy to pray; it is harder to give of our means, notwithstanding the concern in our hearts. The mission effort deserves our best efforts. We should do what we can, and make every attempt to do more.

We who have the Word and enjoy the comfort it brings have little concept of those who lack the peace that passes understanding—that peace that only God, through His Word, can provide.

"Who shall go for us?" The question has been asked so many times. The prophet answered, in heartfelt conviction, "Here am I, Lord; send me." And, Christ, in the words of the song, declared: "So send I *you*!"

Question: If God called you tomorrow, would you be willing to join the ranks of our brethren on foreign soil that "they all may know"?

Support your foreign missions program. Blessings may be forthcoming, and in such abundance that you cannot contain them.

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TWO ORDINARY PEOPLE TURN THEIR LIVES OVER TO GOD

by Audrey Stroud Powell

TWO ordinary people that turned their lives over to an extraordinary God!

At the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary celebration of the Free Will Baptist denomination held in November of 1977, on the campus of Mount Olive College, Gov. James Baxter Hunt Jr., who was a special guest as an honored member of the denomination, stood and stated that, " 'Ma and Pa' Smith are two of God's greatest creations on earth and are two of the most loved people in my life who have meant so much to me over the years and as a child growing up at Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County." Not only did Gov. Hunt make these remarks, but so can hundreds of other people who have grown up in Free Will Baptist Churches where Stephen Smith has pastored and at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex, where he was superintendent for nearly 7 years.

Not only has Mr. Stephen's influence touched the lives of people he has "run up with" all these 72 years but so has his wife's.

Bertha Sumner Smith was born in Beulaville, on September 18, 1908. One of six children born to the late Ed and Cora Jackson Sumner, "Ma" Smith as she is affectionally called by everyone, has deeply inspired others and still does as she meets and sees others and tells them of the endless blessings God has provided in her life and in her family's life.

In the past several years "Ma" Smith has fought a battle with an illness that dares not slow her down. Her testimonies at various church meetings, conventions, and auxiliary gatherings have brought tears to many an eye, male and female.



The Rev. and Mrs. Stephen Smith

I have often heard the saying "behind every successful man is a good wife" and no less can be said of Mrs. Bertha Smith. As her husband was out preaching and working for the Smith-Douglas Co., from which he retired after 20 some odd years, she was busy serving in several different offices which she held in the local, district and state auxiliary work, making a home for her family, crocheting, planning delicious meals that many a visiting preacher or guest ate, and preparing week after week for her Sunday school classes that she taught.

"Ma" Smith was selected as the State "Mother of the Year" by the Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention in 1973.

As a young lady all grown up in the Beulaville Free Will Baptist Church, "Miss" Bertha met Mr. Stephen when his father, the late Willie B. Smith was holding revival services there. They were married 52 years ago on March 26, 1926.

Not only was his father a preacher of the Gospel, so was his oldest brother and also a brother-in-law. Mr. Stephen said "he swore he'd never be a preacher" when he was thinking about his future. His life's ambition was to "make money." He knew he couldn't "preach" and "make money" at the same time so he decided to "make money", Mr. Stephen then quickly added "When the Lord got through with me I'd almost perished to death and decided making money wasn't what I wanted at all!"

On Thanksgiving Day forty-two years ago Stephen Aemilius Smith preached his first sermon taken from 1 Samuel 12:24 "only fear the Lord, and serve him in truth with all your heart; for consider how great things he hath done for you" at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route One, Pink Hill. On that same day with a bit of humor he related how a local resident, Mrs. Nannie Mae Gresham ran away and married Curt Gresham, now deceased.

(Continued on Next Page)

Mr. Stephen told about the early days of his ministry and how "preacher" George Kennedy of Beulaville got up at a meeting and made a statement "that we ought to license preacher Stephen Smith to preach. Mr. Stephen then got up and said if he wanted a license to preach he'd ask for one! Well we laughed over that one then it so happened one year later preacher Kennedy did see to it that he got a license and he was ordained in the Free Will Baptist ministry at the Beulaville church in April of 1938.

One preaching service on Sunday per month is all that Free Will Baptists thought they needed back then! And some still think that! The first years of Mr. Stephen's ministry he traveled among four different churches holding services with a combined income of $15 a month.

In the years to come Mr. Stephen was to hold every office possible in his denomination except being President of Mount Olive College and with a great big smile he said "he reckoned he'd done that except he was sick and in the hospital at the time the decision was made."

One of the biggest challenges in Stephen Smith's life came when he went to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Middlesex as superintendent in 1951.

On the first of November when he took over the job as superintendent, not only was it depressing to have such a task as caring for homeless children and managing hundreds of acres of farmland and the management that comes with such a responsibility but the home was some $37,000 in debt. "The first two weeks I was on the campus I walked and cried, but with the help of the good Lord I got me a trio, piano player, and started visiting Free Will Baptist churches all over our state and presented the truth to the people just like it was and the next November, one year later, the debt was paid off!"

"Pa" Smith, as everyone called him at the orphanage and have since, stated that "the years there were the most rewarding years of my life." Now in Beulaville it seems that not a week goes by but what one of his former children doesn't drop in to visit him and Miss Bertha.

Mr. Stephen contributes the birth and development of Mount Olive College in Mount Olive as the biggest asset to the denomination and also its president, W. Burkette Raper, a former Middlesex resident.

Stephen A. Smith was the first minister to see through a 10 year endowment at the college.

Of his denomination Mr. Stephens says that, "if I were not a Free Will Baptist I'd be ashamed of myself!" One of his longest pastorates was at Pearsall's Chapel in Duplin County for 20 years. Three years ago he held his last revival at Whaley's Chapel in Jones County and decided after that he wasn't going to do any night services.

Well those preachers never give up "Pa" Smith is still in there as he divides his time now between Lanier's Chapel in Duplin County and Mount Zion in Onslow County.

"Being a preacher is the hardest thing I can imagine; you're in a postion to be talked about all the time," he stated.

Born on a farm October 15, 1905, in the Indian Springs section of Wayne County to Willie B. and Johnnie E. Best Smith, he was one of ten children whose brothers and sisters were and are; Mrs. Will (Ethel) Thigpen, Mrs. Maurice (Frances) Sanderson, Mrs. Kirby (Lora) Hill, and Norma whose first husband was Grove Summerlin and then John Price, and Leland Leroy, Benjamin Gurney, John Williams and David Jeptha Smith.

"One of the most inspiring messages ever written to me," stated Mr. Stephen, "was, 'May you always be the boy I've found you to be' " written to him on the inside of one of his primary school books by a former teacher when he attended a one-room school at Indian Springs. The teacher was Miss Dore E. Westmoreland whose son, O. B. Pike, is now in Goldsboro with an auto dealership. "I've tried so hard all these years not to let her down." "One of my most favorite things in school was the spelling bees, this I tried to and did outdo most everyone on."

Not only has Mr. Stephen been a giant in his Lord's work and the denomination but throughout the years in Beulaville, which he calls the garden spot of the world, he has been active in civic and community affairs and served several years on the town board.

The Smith's daughter, Mrs. Sloan (Donna) Thigpen, is nearby and is Director of Nursing at James Sprunt Institute. The grandchildren, Stephen and Kendra delight their grandparents with frequent visits.

Close by in an adjoining yard, is the Smith's nephew and his wife, William and Ollie W. Thigpen.

Going back to the spelling bees, I thought it was quite amusing when Mr. Stephen told of how he spent his time now that he is supposed to be retired. It seems that on a recent weekday he and three other men, who all supposedly had their masters' degree, ate lunch at a Hungry Bull Restaurant and when they got ready to make out the check it seems that no one knew how to spell hungry, it was Mr. Stephen to the rescue! Sometimes we'd be better off, back to the one-room school!

Visits to members of his congregation in the mornings and keeping "Ma" company in the afternoons and with the help of a housekeeper, friends, good neighbors and the good Lord above, all's right with the world! A challenge is still welcome in the Smith home anytime.

"Pa" and "Ma" Smith, two ordinary people led by an extraordinary God!

—**The Pink Hill Review**, February 15, 1978

Coming Events . . .

March 23—Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary, Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, 9:30 a. m.

April 1—Mount Olive College Annual Alumni Meeting and Banquet, Mount Olive

April 8—High School Day, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Was the pain Christ suffered on the Cross and during the preceding night mental or physical?

Answer: Both mental and physical. The Bible seems to indicate that the sufferings of Jesus soared to heights and plunged into depths unknown to all other sufferers. Jesus Christ's death was a vicarious death. It was substituted for the eternal death we were involved in. We were the victims of eternal judgments from birth.

David under the inspiration of God wrote: "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, thou desireth truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow" (Psalm 51:5-7).

While languishing under the curse of sin and the death penalty—it brought to each of us man was still the creature made in the image and likeness of God and was aware in part of the destitute• union he was experiencing. He (man) groped in darkness. "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them" (Romans 1:18, 19); also "Let no man deceive you with vain words; for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience" (Ephesians 5:6) and "Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life" (Romans 5:18); and "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men" (Titus 2:11) and "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9); "They grope in the dark without light, and he maketh them to stagger like a drunken man" (Job 12:25); "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23); "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed" (1 Peter 2:24); "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again" (2 Corinthians 5:14, 15).

We are like all others when it comes to having a full comprehension of what all these Scriptures mean, but in the process of becoming more perfectly acquainted with the truth manifested in them I try to obey the teachings in the Bible concerning obtaining Scriptural truths:

It tells us to study in "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). It tells us to compare spiritual things with spiritual in "Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual" (1 Corinthians 2:13). Our attention is called again to see "For now we see through a glass, darkly: but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known" (1 Corinthians 13:12); "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39); "Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD" (Lamentations 3:40); "I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings" (Jeremiah 17:10); "Sing unto the LORD, praise ye the LORD: for the hath delivered the soul of the poor from the hand of evildoers" (Jeremiah 20:13).

The better one is acquainted with all the Scripture the more likely is he to "rightly divide" or correctly interpret any single passage. The older Bible scholars used to say: "The Bible is the best of all commentaries." I am more persuaded that this is a true statement than at any time in the past.

George H. Sandison, in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered**, writes the following in answering a similar question:

"Pain is a difficult thing to measure. The sorrow of Jesus will always be one of the awe-inspiring, baffling events of the world story. It is impossible to read the Bible deeply, particularly after one has become personally acquainted with Jesus and observed the amazing power that the facts of his suffering and death possess over human souls, without realizing that there must have been far deeper anguish than can be accounted for by the mere facts of his humiliation, rejection, torture and death. If we consider the merely physical pain we must knowledge that others have apparently borne as much, though we must also acknowledge that there are almost infinite degrees of susceptibility to pain. A wound which will cause little pain to a man of a certain temperament and organization may be excruciating to one of finer and more acute sensitiveness. But the real agony of Jesus must have been different from either physical or mental. There is a sane note, a moral note in His suffering that puts it altogether beyond our comprehension. Matthew, Mark, and Luke all record the fact that as He died He cried out with a loud voice. That seems strange from what we know of the dauntless courage of Jesus. Some immeasurable, inconceivable suffering must lie back of that cry. So also His appeal in the garden for deliverance at the last hour. There must have been an infinite anguish ahead to compel Him to ask for another

(Continued on Page 13)



SUNDAY, MARCH 12

Scripture Reading—Acts 20:28

NO ONE COULD QUALIFY

A new Sunday school was to be opened by a certain church named All Saints. The neighborhood was canvassed for pupils. On the appointed Sunday the superintendent and teachers arrived, and put up a blackboard outside, with the inscription, "All Saints' Sunday School." However, no pupils came, and when they came out, somewhat crestfallen, they found that someone, with a piece of chalk had altered the inscription. It now read, "All Saints (and no Sinners) Sunday School." Alas, in people's own estimation, many churches have congregations like that. But what is right in a man's own eyes is not necessarily right in the sight of God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Sunday schools should be open to sinners too, because it is there that sinners learn about God and become converted to God's Word.

MONDAY, MARCH 13

Scripture Reading—John 4:24

DAD WAS RIGHT!

Teen-aged Rodney got up late and had just time enough to gulp down some hot chocolate and a piece of toast before rushing off to school. He arose from the table hastily.

"Where are you going, Son?" asked his father.

"To school, of course, Dad."

"No, my boy. You do not go to school without first looking to God. Sit down for our devotions."

Rodney was restless during the Bible reading, and shuffled his feet during the prayer, squirming impatiently. But when he was forcing his jalopy down the street at top speed toward school, some thoughts were crystallizing down underneath his resentment. They ran something like this:

"Dad is right. God is managing our lives, and we should always commit ourselves and our day to Him. I'm glad now that Dad made me wait."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we sometimes forget to thank God for the day before we rush off to school or wherever? We should always stop to thank Him each day.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

Scripture Reading—Acts 24:14

TEN REASONS FOR A FAMILY AFFAIR

Because it will send you forth to your daily task with cheerful heart, stronger for the work and truer to duty, and determined in whatever is done therein to glorify God.

Because it will give you strength to meet the discouragements, the disappointments, the unexpected adversities, and sometimes the blighted hopes that may fall to your lot.

Because it will make you conscious throughout the day of the attending presence of the unseen Divine One, who will bring you through more than conqueror over every unholy thought of thing that rises up against you.

Because it will sweeten home life and enrich home relationship as nothing else can do.

Because it will solve all the misunderstandings and relieve all the frictions that sometimes intrude into the sacred precincts of family life.

Because it will hold the boys and girls as nothing else, when they have gone out from underneath the parental roof, and so determine very largely the eternal salvation of your children.

Because it will exert a helpful, hallowed influence over those who may at any time be guests within your home.

Because it will enforce, as nothing else can do, the work of your pastor, and stimulate the life of your church in its every activity.

Because it will furnish an example and stimulus to other homes for the same kind of life and service and devotion to God.

Because the Word of God requires it, and in thus obeying God we honor Him who is the giver of all good and the source of all blessings.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What would a home be like without a family altar? It is a place of quietness to God among family members. What a way to start the day having God your side!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Scripture Reading—Psalm 68:5

"A NEW DADDY!"

Gipsy Smith tells of trying to push his way through a great crowd in the north of Scotland and feeling a tug at his coat sleeve. At first he thought it was only someone else trying to get into the meeting with him and paid little or no attention, but as the tugging increased and became more and more insistent, he turned as best he could in the jam to find out what was wanted. Imagine his astonishment to find close beside him a little Scotch lassie, clad in rags, holding in her uplifted hand something wrapped in tissue paper, moist and grimy from the clutch of her little fingers.

"What is it, my dear?" he asked and she answered, "I want you to have my candy."

"Why?" he asked.

"Oh, sir!" she cried, " 'cause we've got a new daddy at our house! He has never been sober till Saturday! We've

never known him to be sober; but he was in your meeting last Saturday, and, oh, it's so wonderful now at home, 'cause he's sober!"

Didn't Gipsy Smith take that candy? and didn't he take the giver of it up in his arms and hold her close to his glad, thankful heart? She was so grateful for a sober daddy that she was willing to part with her dearly loved candy; and he was so thankful for a soul saved, a slave set free, a husband and father clothed in his right mind and returned to his family through his efforts, that tears not only filled his eyes but ran down his cheeks.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Doesn't Jesus get overjoyed when a soul comes to Him in repentance? Just imagine what it would feel like to have a crowd to come to Him! He must be overwhelmed then.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

Scripture Reading—Psalm 94:20

WHY THEY COULD LIVE TOGETHER HAPPILY

Genuine Christian fellowship can be enjoyed even when war is raging! A ranch in California had been leased to a Japanese family for a period of years. When we became involved in World War II, the Japanese were ordered into the interior of the state. This brought dismay to both the family and owner of the ranch. The owner desperately needed help; and finally suceeded in hiring a Chinese family. The Chinese family arrived on the scene a week before the Japanese family had to vacate. With one ranch house on the place, the owner was in a dilemma at to what to do. But it was discovered that both the Japanese and Chinese families were devout Christians, in the enjoyment of the fellowship of the Father and the Son—so they decided they could live happily together in the same house. Each day they worshipped and prayed together, using the English language, which both understood. The Japanese helped the Chinese to get started with the work, and the Chinese helped the Japanese to get packed and ready to go. When the time came for the separation, both families promised to pray for each other.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should be able to pray for all people, no matter who they are. It doesn't matter what part of the world they live either. We should love our brothers and sisters in Christ.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 9:7

THE NAPKIN MUST BE UNWRAPPED

The story is told of two brothers who, brought up in a Christian home, were sent to the same college to prepare themselves for their life-work. One of the brothers decided to enter the ministry. The other determined to study law. They completed their university training at the same time and each went his way into the world.

The brother, who was now a minister of the Gospel, did not make any great name for himself. He was, however faithful to the Lord in the place of his calling, serving for many years in a small church in a small town.

The other brother prospered seemingly in every way. He developed a large practice, handled some famous cases, wrote several noteworthy legal books, and was, at a comparatively early age, appointed to a judgeship.

A day came when things went wrong for the lawyer. His fortune slipped away through some unwise investments, and his health failed. At length he went to visit his brother. One day while the minister-brother was reading in his study, he heard his lawyer-brother weeping, in another part of the house, as if his heart would break. The minister went to the lawyer and inquired as to the trouble. "Oh," exlaimed the lawyer, "it is near the end, and I am not ready to go!"

"You received Christ as your Saviour years ago," the pastor replied. "Don't tell me that you do not trust Him to keep you!"

"It isn't that," the broken man sobbed. "I know that my sins are gone, that God has forgiven me. But still I'm not ready to go. As I think over my life I can't recall a single soul that I have led to Christ or of ever having been a good witness to Him."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God gave us a great commandment to go to all the world and tell others. Have we as Christians done this commandment? How many souls have you won to Christ?

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

Scripture Reading—John 15:13

DANNY'S BEST FRIEND

As Mother's Day drew near Miss Smith asked her first-graders, "Who is your best friend, children?"

Danny's hand popped up with a quick jerk for he was positive he knew the answer.

"All right, Danny," said his teacher kindly, "Stand up and tell the children who your best friend is?"

"It's God," answered Danny with finality.

"Well, yes," said Miss Smith, "That's right, Danny, but who is your best friend at home? Who does everything for you and cares for you at home?"

"There was no hesitation in Danny's voice as he answered, "It's Jesus."

Happy boy, blessed mother whose child is taught to put the friendship of the Father-God and the love of Jesus Christ even above the friendship of Mother.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What greater friend can a person have than Jesus? He cares for you always even when your earthly friends and relatives are gone.

Devotions used by permission *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"

mission work...

at home and abroad.

Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
[illegible] Treasurer
P[illegible] 979
Goldsboro, N. C. 27530

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
Fayetteville, N. C. 28305

APRIL AND AUGUST HOME MISSION MONTHS

Beloved, we are indeed thankful for the interest that has been shown in Home Missions and Church Extension. We understand and accept the fact that this is God's business, and that we are trying to do our part in fulfilling the great commission here in America. Many souls are being reached and it is obvious that the success of this work will have a vital role in the expansion and strength of our denomination in future generations. Our state convention has designated April and August as Home Missions and Church Extension months.

Listed below you will find condensed information about the ten missions we are now endorsing:

Victory Mission: Highway 59 South, Hope Mills. Building completed. Pastor: the Rev. Bobby Murray, 2548 Hope Mills Road, Cumberland, North Carolina; Phone, 425-7873

West Hillsborough: North Street. Owns building. Pastor: the Rev. Grayson Spencer, Route 2, Box 216, Trinity, North Carolina; Phone, 431-3081.

Heritage: Charlotte. Building underway. Pastor: the Rev. Wayne Watson, 6110 Honeysuckle Lane, Charlotte, North Carolina 28212; Phone, 568-0159.

Free Spirit: Wilson. Highway 301 South, Building underway. Pastor: the Rev. Dale Alberton, Box 185, Black Creek, North Carolina 27813; Phone, 291-5331.

Freedom: 5th Street, Lumberton, Owns building site. Pastor: the Rev. Lewis Sprouse, P. O. Box 816, Bladenboro, North Carolina 28320; Phone, 863-4298.

Faith: Leland, Owns place of worship. Pastor: the Rev. Roger Heath, 5204 Spruce Drive, Fayetteville, North Carolina; Phone, 425-5402.

Catalpa: 5215 Catalpa Road, Fayetteville, Owns place of worship. Pastor: the Rev. Alton Howard, P. O. Box 64125, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28306; Phone, 483-3475.

Cape Colony: Edenton, Owns building site. Pastor: the Rev. Johnnie Sexton, Route 1, Box 254, Plymouth, North Carolina 27962; Phone, 793-2782.

Haymount: 1209 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville. Pastor: the Rev. Taylor Hill; Phone, 485-3980 or 485-4471.

New Raleigh Mission: 1701 Glen Eden Drive, Northwest Side. Pastor: the Rev. Ronnie Hall, 422 Barbour Street, Clayton, North Carolina; Phone, 553-6070.

Dean Kennedy, Promotional Assistant, Route 2, Box 344-E, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572; Phone: 568-3732.

We are always interested in hearing from ministers who are interested in going on the home missions field.

Respectfully submitted,
Taylor Hill
Director-Treasurer

NOTICE!

The Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention will meet Tuesday, March 14, at 10 a. m. in the Board Room at the Free Will Baptist Press.

David Charles Hansley

Woman's Auxiliary

INSTALLATION OF LADIES AUXILIARY OFFICERS



New officers are as follows: (Seated left to right) Nellie Davis, vice-president; Sadie Peele, president; and Bonita Blow, secretary. (Second row, left to right): Louise Thomas, nominating committee; Tessie Windham, corresponding secretary; Dollie Sauls, benevolence chairman; Louise Blow, youth chairman; and Georgia Cuddington, treasurer. (Third row, left to right): Ruby Stancil, nominating committee; Belle Proctor, birthday treasurer; Loydene Proctor, mission chairman; Shirley Winders, Christian education chairman; and Gaye Renfrow, program chairman. (Back row, left to right): Juanita Radford, nominating chairman; and Charles Renfrow, pastor. Not pictured are Betty Jean Bogue, enlistment chairman; and Geraldine Peele, study course chairman.

The Rev. Charles L. Renfrow, pastor of the Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, Fremont, installed officers of the ladies auxiliary at their monthly meeting on Friday night, February 17.

He mentioned briefly the duties and responsibilities of not only the officers for 1978, but other auxiliary members as well. The new officers then formed a prayer wheel and were lead in prayer by the pastor.

ATTENTION LADIES

Time marches on. Soon the Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention will convene. It is again time to examine

yourselves. How is your faith? Have you proven yourself faithful in the Lord's Great Commission? Remember, you are His witness. He has no other means by which the whole world can be reached with the gospel, except through you, His born-again child.

In the Book of Ezekiel, God calls His servants **watchmen**. This does not apply only to preachers, evangelists, deacons, and so on. It applies to every one who has been redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus.

Ladies, you can make a love offering for missions at the district convention—the greatest sacrifice you have ever made to the Lord for lost souls. May you give as if this will be the last opportunity you will ever have to give to the **One** who gave His **all** for you. How better can you prove your love and appreciation for so great a sacrifice as Jesus made for you at Calvary!

Mrs. Edwin Roper
Mission Chairman

MRS. CAPTOLIA STEPPS GETS LIFE AWARD



Mrs. Captolia Stepps receives life membership award.

Recently at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, one of the most loyal auxiliary members, Mrs. Captolia Stepps, was honored. Although is not a charter member, she has been a member of the auxiliary of ladies aid society, as it was first called, for many years. For several years she never missed a meeting. When it was time to paint the pews of the church or the floor, or clean the church or the yard, she was there. Her devotion to the auxiliary has been an inspiration to everyone.

She was born in 1905, one of nine children belonging to Mr. and Mrs. K. B. Cobb. She was married in 1924 to Paul Stepps. She has been a member of Friendship church for approximately 56 years. she is also a member of the Sunday school and league.

The life membership certificate and pin were presented during the monthly auxiliary meeting.



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

It's really hard to actually sit down and say what your faith means to you. I guess that's because we all tend to take our faith pretty much for granted. My faith in God, in His ability to know what is right for me, in His all-knowing wisdom to lead me to choose the right things, is deep inside me. Religion and my faith are two things I don't take lightly.

It was my deep faith in God and His ability that literally saved my life some nine years ago. The circumstances were traumatic at the time. I was sixteen and worshiped the ground my faither walked on. We had always been a lot alike. Also, at the same time, I was extremely active in my church. Ironically, the day my dad committed suicide, my mother, my brother, and I were at church—all either teaching or attending Bible School . . . . When my mom and I found my dad lying in the backyard, there was no doubt that he was dead.

I don't really remember much else that happened for the next few days. I was in a state of shock. All I remember was the inevitable question, "Why?" Having been so close to Dad made the circumstances twice as bad for me as they would have been. For weeks I was numb. I continually questioned the one thing I have never questioned—the one Person I had always trusted—God and His wisdom.

As time passed, I began to see that life without my father was not the end of the world, but rather a beginning. I guess I grew up as many sixteen-year-olds never do—overnight. I took on responsibilities I never had before.

I suppose the best thing that came out of the whole episode was that I truly did learn that God does work in mysterious ways. It took a tragedy for me to see that in His infinite wisdom He does know what all His children need.

NAME WITHHELD

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For March 19

WITNESSING WITH POWER

Lesson Text: Acts 3:1-10; 4:1-4
Memory Verse: Acts 3:26

I. INTRODUCTION

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver," wrote Solomon (Proverbs 25:11), pointing out the virtue so many of us never seem to acquire. How often have we heard another person give beautiful expression to something and we have said, "I wish I had said that!"

The expansion of the gospel of our Lord is largely dependent upon words "fitly spoken." Person-to-person witnessing will always be the primary means of evangelism. The genius of this is that the witness need not be gifted with eloquence. The Christian message is elementary, and may be expressed in the simplest terms. We need only convey the good news that our reconciliation to God comes through His Son and our Lord, Jesus Christ, and that all our sin is completely taken from us when we obediently respond to His gospel.

In this lesson we see the apostles Peter and John meeting a lame man as they entered the temple. How normal it might seem to us had Peter and John simply passed by the crippled beggar without a word. No doubt he was accustomed to that kind of treatment by the great majority of passersby on their way into the temple. Many of them, no doubt, saw him only as a nonproductive man, a parasite upon society. The apostles, however, saw a man who needed the Saviour, and they met his need. The lesson is clear: ordinary life presents many occasions for our witnessing if we but care to use them.

This man received new power to walk because of the divine power given to the apostles; but he received infinitely more through Jesus Christ. We do not possesss the power of the apostles, but we can take the lifesaving message of Jesus Christ to needy, lost souls. Most of us, daily, have many opportunities to speak in this way.

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Today we study the first apostolic miracle after the coming of the Holy Spirit. In last Sunday's lesson, we saw the promise fulfilled—the Holy Spirit came. Today we see the work of God's people after the Holy Spirit had come upon them. What a difference the coming of the Holy Spirit makes!

B. The church has what the world needs. This beggar felt that his greatest need was material help, but the apostles did not have any to give—"**Silver and gold have I none.**" They did have what the man needed most of all. The church today has what the world needs most—the gospel of Jesus Christ. Are we giving it to the world as we should?

C. The first thing the lame man did after he was healed was leap and shout for joy. This is natural when the Lord has touched one's life. Then he went into the house of God. Failure to attend church is a spiritual problem. There is something spiritually wrong with people who do not regularly attend the house of God. Those who willingfully absent themselves from the house of God need the touch of the Master in their lives.

D. Peter used the occasion of this miracle to bring the people a message from God. This is Peter's second sermon in the Book of Acts; the first one is in Acts 2. There was a twofold reaction. Some believed and turned to the Lord. Others refused to believe and sought to kep the work of the Lord.

E. The enemies of the gospel were not able to stop the apostles from preaching. They persecuted them, but the apostles refused to let this stop them. Christians should never allow the criticism and persecution of the world to stop them from their witness to the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

—Selected

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Each day an unfortunate cripple was brought to the temple gate by friends or relatives so he could get help. It is believed this was the gate that faced east and was officially known as the gate of Nicanor. This man was born lame and had become a kind of permanent fixture at the temple. No man had been able to heal him unto Peter and John came upon the scene. They had not necessarily come to heal, but to worship. God had other plans, however.

B. There is no indication that the lame man knew who Peter and John were; he simply called out to them for help, as he might have called to any other passersby. On the other hand, it is possible that he saw them as being more friendly than others, since they were men filled with the Holy Spirit. The lame man saw Peter and John as possible friends who might help him; the two apostles saw the lame man as one to whom they could witness.

C. Peter was the spokesman. He took special notice of the man, heard his request for help, and asked for the man's undivided attention. This was not to be just another "hand-out"; Peter had something more in mind. He wanted the lame man to look upon him and John as

special helpers, not just two casual persons entering the temple. He was going to witness to the man and needed his attention.

D. There was nothing secret about this event. It was not "done in a corner," but openly, in clear view of all who had gathered at the temple. The people had often seen the lame beggar, now they saw him an his feet, walking and leaping and praising God.

E. "Someone has suggested that the customary worship got little attention that day, since all the worshipers must have been staring at this man. It seems likely, however, that the disciples and many others joined in praising God for the miracle of healing."—**Standard Bible Commentary**. There is no clear evidence that the people joined in the praising, but human nature suggests that they were caught up in the spirit of this man's praising.

F. The people were amazed at what they saw. A human being had been miraculously transformed, both physically and spiritually. Peter used the occasion to preach to the people, showing them that their God had great power to heal and save.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING TIPS

Chapman's Story—The great American evangelist Dr. Wilbur Chapman tells this story. In a large meeting in Boston, when the ministers were going down to do personal work, one of the ministers lingered on the platform. Charles Alexander, the song leader, turned to him and said, "Are you a Christian?"

He answered, "I am, sir."

"Then why don't you go to work?"

The minister was mad enough to answer back. What right had any man to speak to him like that? Then his conscience got to work—"Are you a Christian? Then why don't you go to work?"

He stepped off the platform and met a man coming toward the pulpit. He asked, "Are you a Christian?"

"No," the man replied.

"Do you want Christ?"

"I do."

The minister sat down and led him to Christ. Why don't people who are saved tell others about the gospel? Can you answer this question?

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE FELLOWSHIP OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE QUARTERLY MEETING

The Laymen's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will be having its quarterly meeting, Friday, March 10, at 8 p. m. This meeting will be at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church located on Highway 264 just west of Greenville.

The Psalms Quartet will bless the Conference with a message in song. All laymen are urged to bring their families and join in on the fellowship.

Refreshments will be served by Piney Grove immediately following the meeting.

FIFTH EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH RALLY SPONSORS BASKETBALL GAME

The Fifth Eastern District Youth for Christ Rally will sponsor a Christian fellowship basketball game on March 11. The place for this rally will be the Aurora High School Gym, Aurora, at 7 p. m. The ministers of the Fifth Eastern District will take on the youth of the district. The officers of the rally extend an invitation for all of the churches of the district to take an active and renewed interest in the rally. Devotions, prayer, and testimonies will begin the services and a prayer circle will conclude the night's activities.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

Children's Home

PORK PRODUCTION

During the latter part of 1977 we announced that the Home would be getting back into pork production this spring. We have completed a small pen and are now prepared to receive pigs or funds to buy pigs for topping out.

We have bought our pork for some time now and, as you know, it is expensive. We believe we can save by raising and killing our own meat. We have people on our staff, at this time, who cut meat, among their many other talents.

We will appreciate any help we can get from our people.

THANKS FOR THE BLANKETS

A few weeks ago we asked for blankets for the cottages. The response has been overwhelming. We have plenty of blankets now. However, if your group has some and have not delivered them, bring them on as we need spares.

Others who may have considered blankets and wish now to contribute to some more-needed project may help us with suitcases for the children. They need to be large enough for a 3 or 4 day visit. Easter and summer vacations are not far away so the suitcases are items we need soon.

Again, thank you for the tremendous response on the blankets.

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

The Lord has blessed us so bountifully this winter. Income has continued to exceed last year's but so have expenses. Nonetheless, we are in good shape. The months of February, March, and April are very slow months. Usually during this period denominational gifts fall far short of what is needed to pay the bills. The surplus from the good months tides us over. Also during this spring we need to

(Continued on Page 15)

THE BIG FISHERMAN

JEREMIAH stood for a moment outside the market holding his basket closely, guarding the precious merchandise it held. It wasn't every day they had bread from the market. Usually Mama had to pound the golden grains between the mill rocks until it made a fine powder. From this powder, she made dough and cooked it in the big community ovens in the village square.

But today was a special occasion.

Special occasion, nothing! What could be so special about Michael from down the lane coming to ask Daddy about marrying sister Josephine. I wish he'd ask me, Jeremiah thought. He can have her and the sooner, the better. Jeremiah's ears still smarted from the keen words she had shouted at him this morning when she found mud specks on her pallet. And he hadn't been anywhere near her pallet.

The boy looked up the cobbled street toward his home—then wistfully down the street the other way toward the sea.

"Don't go to the harbor," his mother had warned—strongly.

Just as he turned up the street, the sun caught the rippling waves. An undercurrent of excitement tugged at his feet.

The temptation was too great.

It won't take but a minute, he told himself. What will it hurt anyway? It was hours before suppertime.

Soon he was running, swinging the basket with disjointed grace, whistling an off-key tune. The sun was shining, the air was brisk, just the kind of day for the fishermen's nets to be filled. A happy day. He would forget about detestable sisters who were always looking for something to yell about! There were more important things to do.

He neared the harbor. The strong smell of fish, and drying nets, and seaweed caught his nostrils. Just as exciting as he remembered from other stolen moments.

People began calling to one another and pointing out to sea. A boat was coming. A fishing boat.

Jeremiah dropped the basket beside a boulder and ventured near the water's edge.

It was even more exciting today. Why all the confusion? Why were all these people gathered? Something unusual must be getting on.

A group of fishermen under an almond tree stopped mending their nets and neared the crowd.

"I told them they were crazy!" one of the men shouted above the noise. "What does that carpenter know about fishing anyway?"

" 'Cast out into the deep!' " the leader of the group mocked. "What a laugh! We fished all night and didn't catch one. There's not a fish within miles of here today."

A quiet suspense settled over the unruly crowd.

The boat, low in the water, seemed to be in trouble. The sails were dangerously alive, fighting against the straining seamen.

Another boat was racing to the rescue. Would it make it?

Jeremiah squeezed his eyes shut and covered his ears with his hands.

Ahs of relief spread through the crowd and the little boy opened his eyes again. The boat was in time.

"What are they doing?" someone asked of the boats side by side far out into the water.

Later the two boats made their way slowly to shore.

"They're loaded!" one of the taller fishermen on shore yelled as they neared the harbor. "They are **both** loaded with fish!"

A hugh red-headed fisherman was at the helm of the first one, the sails were now calm. He saluted the crowd, grinning from ear to ear, then centered his attention on safely docking the loaded boat.

The big fisherman from the boat came to the leader on shore and they talked briefly.

"Well, I'll be a camel's grandmother!" the leader said shaking his head in unbelief.

The people watched as the red-headed fisherman and one of his helpers turned and joined a stranger.

"That's Simon and his brother, Andrew," someone said, "but I don't know who the stranger is."

by Nancy Matthews



"What did he say? What did he say?" was being asked all around.

The leader shook his head as if to clear it.

"He said, 'You can have the boat and the fish, too. I won't be needing them anymore'."

"What's he going to do?"

"That's the confusing part. He said, 'From this moment on, I'll be a fisher of men.'"

Jeremiah felt as though he had witnessed something very significant, a mystery unfolding, but he didn't understand what it was.

"So this is where you are!" Josephine said beside him.

Jeremiah jumped as if she had physically struck him. He turned and ran to the boulder just in time to see the last of his bread being divided among some boisterous fishermen.

Josephine caught up with him and saw the situation in one glance.

"What are you doing with my brother's bread?" she asked angrily.

"Eating it, Lady," one of them jeered.

"You will give we money to buy more. It's for a special occasion."

The men only laughed at her.

Daddy would have a fit if he saw Josephine talking to these men. She would be an outcast. Why, Michael would not want her now!

And Josephine is doing it for me, Jeremiah thought. She stood up to those big, strong men just as if they were her little brothers. And she hadn't flinched.

Admiration showed in Jeremiah's eyes.

But the fishermen showed no signs of giving in.

"Pay the child for the bread," a gentle voice said from behind Jeremiah.

He turned and saw a kind faced stranger, the big fisherman and his brother.

The fishermen's laughter was snapped off. Hurriedly coins were dropped into the basket. They turned away ashamed.

The stranger put his hand on Jeremiah's head. "Bless you," he said. Then, to Josephine, "You'll make a very good wife."

He smiled and the smile changed the color of the day for Jeremiah.

He and his sister watched as the three men turned away from the crowd and made their way away from the harbor.

Josephine paused in the street on the way home with fresh bread from the market. "I'm sorry I yelled at you this morning," she said. "It was the dog who tracked in mud."

"Gee, that's all right. It could have been me. Just this time it wasn't."

"But even if it had been you, I had no right to yell. One look into the stranger's eyes and everything seems to have changed. It makes me want to love instead of yell."

"Yeah," Jeremiah apologized, "and I'm sorry I disobeyed. When he looked at me, I wanted to tell him I'm sorry for every time I've ever disobeyed in my life."

"I know," she agreed, her voice quivering.

"Who is the stranger anyway?" he asked.

"Someone said He's a carpenter from Galilee, a man called, Jesus." the older sister answered. "But He's more than an ordinary carpenter."

Jeremiah was thoughtful for a moment.

"I wish," he thought aloud wistfully. "I wish that I was grown-up so I could go with Him."

"But if we have love in our hearts, it will be like keeping Him here with us," she answered.

"Really?"

"Well, maybe the next best thing," she amended.

She held out her hand to her little brother. He grasped it and smiled up at her.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from Page 5)

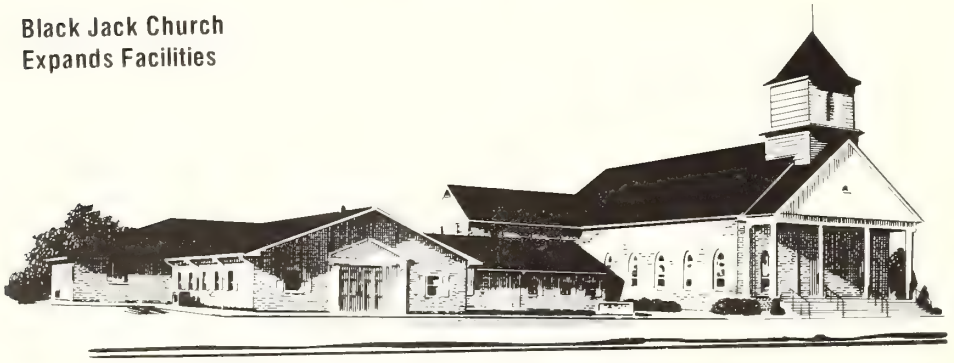
way. We get the clearest hint in the grievous prayer from the Cross: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" There must have been some definite, conscious, agonizing break in the eternal love which had bound the Father and the Son together. Perhaps there was deeper truth than the ancient formulators of the creed know in those strange words: "He descended into hell." No—of all the griefs in the world that of Jesus while He was on the Cross and while His body lay in the grave, is unique. Its depth, its duration, none can know. They counted the hours He spent on the Cross and the hours in the grave. But what eternities of spirit anguish He underwent we may never know. But, praise God! they were enough to shock every penitent soul that hears of it into a new life, a life in which sin is hated and righteousness loved, a life of which the crucified and risen Saviour is the eternal Light and the neverfailing hope and joy."

URGENT

The State Home Missions Department is in urgent need of folding chairs to be used in the new mission. Contributors please contact, the Rev. Taylor Hill, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, N. C. 28305; or call 485-3980.

NEWS & NOTES

Black Jack Church Expands Facilities



In 1831, the people of the Black Jack community of Pitt County had a vision to build a church for the worship of God and to promote the cause of Christ. Through the years she has stood faithfully to the purpose for which she was founded. As the needs arose and times changed, she always responded to the circumstances by providing the physical and spiritual aids her members required.

In this spirit, the Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church saw a need, in 1973, for additional educational space for the teaching of God's Word. However, before construction could begin, parking space had to be purchased since the present site was so small and limited. To accommodate this need, nineteen acres of land directly in front of the church was made available which could also be developed into recreational facilities and future expansion.

After much prayer and planning, a ground-breaking service was held on May 13, 1977, for a new 4,700 square foot classroom building. The contract was awarded to the J. H. Hudson Construction Company, and on October 16, 1977, the $115,000 building and equipment was dedicated to the glory of God with dedicated to the glory of God with only a $5,000 outstanding debt. The joy of the people is not in the brick and mortar but in the changed hearts and lives of those who use the facilities.

Mother-Daughter Banquet Sound View Church

On Saturday night, February 25, the Sound View Free Will Baptist Ladies Auxiliary had a Mother-Daughter Banquet. The Sound View church is located west of Morehead City.

Attending the banquet were 50 women and children. Mrs. Phyllis Williams won the door prize. There were two mothers who had four generations present. They were Mrs. Lera Ward and Mrs. Fannie Hall. Mrs. Lera Ward was the oldest mother; she is 81 years old. Mrs. Debbie Beyers, who is 27 years old, was the youngest. Loraine Dickinson had the most children. Mrs. Lois Lewis planned a wonderful program after the supper. Miss Joni Lewis, Michael Dickinson and Miss Valarie Lewis sang some songs after the program. The banquet ended with the group singing, "Bless Be the Tie."

Mount Zion Church Announces Revival

Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville, will hold a revival beginning March 12, and will continue through March 17. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

The Rev. Billy Nowell, pastor of Tee's Chapel church, will bring the messages each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Roy Clifton, and the members invite everyone to attend.

Revival Planned at Black Jack Church



O. B. Jones

The Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Greenville announces its spring revival with the Rev. O. B. Jones as the guest speaker. Services will begin on March 12 continuing through March 17 each night at 7:30 except for Sunday, March 12, at 7 p.m.. There will be special music each evening.

The Rev. O. B. Jones is the pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Tarboro.

The pastor, the Rev. Bobby G. Bazen and members of the church cordially invite everyone to attend the services nightly.

Revival in Progress Fremont Church

Revival services began Monday night, March 6, at 7:30 p. m. at Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, Fremont, and will continue through March 10. The Rev. Jack Mayo of Winterville is the speaking evangelist.

Special music is rendered each night. Prayer services are held each evening at 7:10 p. m.

The Rev. Charles L. Renfrow, pastor of the church, would like to invite the public to attend and be a part of the revival services throughout the reminder of the week.

Revival Announced at Friendship Church



The Rev. Bobby Taylor

Revival services will begin at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, on March 13 and will continue through March 18. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 p. m., with the Rev. Bobby Taylor of Route 1, Winterville, as the evangelist.

The Rev. Walter Reynolds, pastor, and the church membership extend to everyone a cordial invitation to attend.

MOUNT OLIVE

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville on Sunday, March 12, at the 9:45 a. m. and 11 a. m. worship services.

The Rev. David Brinson is pastor.

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations, Mount Olive College's traveling gospel group, will perform at Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Vandemere on Sunday, March 12, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Buddy Sasser is pastor.

ALUMNI OF THE YEAR TO BE HONORED

The Mount Olive College Alumni Association will honor the Alumni of the Year on Saturday, April 1.

The recipient will be a person who has made a distinct contribution to his or her Alma Mater, church and community.

The form below is for the purpose of placing a name in nomination and a letter of nomination should accompany the form listing; in paragraph form, with specific information, the reasons for nominating a particular person. All nominations must be complete in order to be judged.

Please mail your nomination to Alumni Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 no later than March 9.

Children's Home

(Continued from Page 11)

replace the swimming pool. Repairing the old one would be much too costly.

We are asking our people to do three things. One, let's keep our regular giving up this spring, so we won't have to dig so deeply into our reserve. Secondly, we need large donors for the pool project. We encourage our churches, Sunday schools, and individuals to consider the pool project and give as the Lord prospers you. Thirdly, unleash the power of God! Pray. Pray that our needs will be met and become an answer to prayer.

Churches and Ministers Available

Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Stantonsburg, is seeking a pastor beginning in June. Any minister interested please call Bobby Finch at 242-4091, daytime; or 242-4019, or 238-2115 at night.

George Slade announces that he is available for relief, service or supply work. He is licensed by the Antioch Free Will Baptist Church, near New Bern. He may be contacted by writing 215 King Street, New Bern, North Carolina 28560; or by phoning 633-3001 or 638-2569.

NOMINATION FORM

I wish to put the name of ....., class of ..... in nomination for "Alumni of the Year" award.

In your letter of nomination, you might include the following areas:

— Church Activities
— Community Involvement
— Special Achievements
— Present Employment
— College Alumni Participation
— Present Status of Family
— Educational Achievements
— Other

.....
Signature of Person Making Nomination

.....
Address

.....
City State Zip

.....
Telephone College Class

COM.
LIBRARY
DUKE UNIVERSITY
DURHAM, N.C. 27703

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUES

MT. ZION FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

NEAR ROPER

MARCH 11, 1978

Convention Theme: "Close Encounters With Christ"

Convention Scripture: "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded" (James 4:8).

Convention Song: "Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

9:30—Registration Fee $10

10:00—Chorus Singing . . . . . Mrs. Margaret Ard
—Devotions . . . . . Piney Grove League
—Welcome . . . . . Mt. Zion League
—Response . . . . . Christian Chapel

10:15—President's Remarks . The Rev. Jack Mayo
—Appointment of Committees

10:20—Christian Cadet Conferent Report . . . . . The Rev. Tommy Evans
—Hymn

10:30—State Sword Drill . . . . . Mrs. Judy Conner, Director

10:50—Chorus Singing

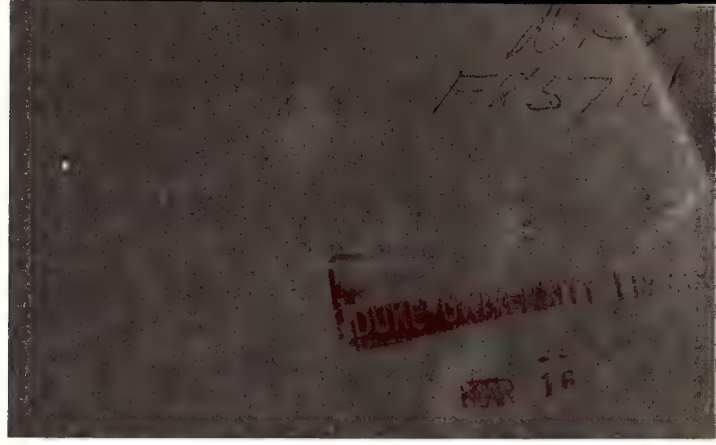
11:00—Business Session
—Awarding of Certificates

11:30—Singspiration . . . . . Miss Leah McGlohon, Direcotor

11:50—Worship Service . . . . . Diane Riley

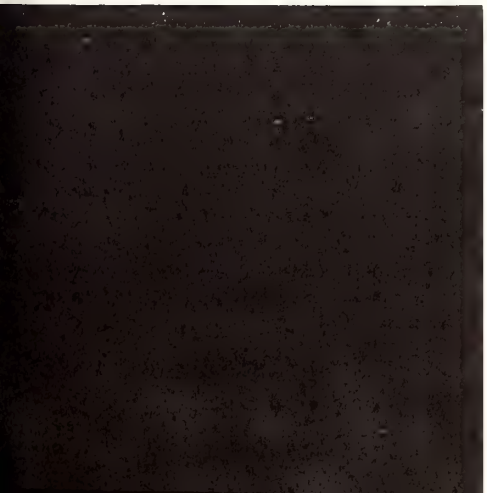
12:30—League Song . . . . . Director
—League Benediction
—Lunch

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST





MARCH 15, 1978
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



**MEN OF HIGH IDEALS
HAVE OFTEN SOUGHT GOD
WITH THEIR MINDS.
ONLY AFTER THEY HAVE OPENED THEIR HEARTS
HAVE THEY TRULY FOUND HIM!**

Cover Photo by Camerique

CONSIDER, IF YOU WILL. . .

On Thinking

Not many persons would voluntarily disclose their every thought. Few would claim that all their thinking is of the sound, constructive kind. And surely no one would disavow having had at least one evil thought sometime in his experience. A person who claims perfection of thought can hardly be trusted.

Each of us should pray with the psalmist, "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts" (Psalm 139:23). And, if our thoughts are more on the world and the things thereof, we should reexamine ourselves. A closer relationship to God may be needed—and usually is!

The Shell of Ourselves

Mankind, for the present, is trapped in a shell. Sometimes the shell is empty, and we want it removed. Sometimes the only remedy seems to be death, which breaks the chains of humanity and allows the spirit to rise to heights unknown. For most of us, this occurrence will be sometime hence; for a fortunate few, it has already happened.

While prisoners of this realm, we nonetheless have freedoms—the least of which is not *freedom of will*. Decisions, good or bad, happy or sad, are influenced by the freedoms we exercise. And though the will is self-controlled, we should allow God to lead us by His Spirit; then, *our* will becomes *His* will. The shell of ourselves is no longer empty; we are full—filled by an inpouring of His grace.

Manner of Conversation

One should never try to show up a person who is less knowledgeable than himself. Really, only a fool tries to make another person feel like a fool. We see this attempted numerous times in conversation, when someone who has a superiority complex strives to inflict his highness upon another by belittling him verbally and attempting to squash the little ego that the second party possesses. Arrogance and false pride are never acceptable, and especially not in conversation. A big talker usually does little else. God prefers doers anyway.

On Cleansing Hearts

No pretty social talk can ever be received as an equivalent for the gospel. Social messages might make us more sociable or cause us to be more socially *acceptable*, but they can never cleanse a heart. Cleansing comes only with a saving knowledge of Christ. It takes more than shaking our brother's hand or helping him plow his ground. Certainly, with Christ in our hearts we will take joy in shaking our brother's hand and helping him plow his ground, but this is not the way we get Christ in our hearts. He is the *cause* first, then the *effect*. He takes abode first, then other things fall into place. Doing good makes a good impression, sure; but without the right motivation, it is like so much chaff in the wind.

Ponder this: Would there be a church to attend if everybody had the same zeal as you have for its cause and employed the same faithfulness as you do in attending its services?

Men of high ideals have often sought God with their *minds;* only after they have opened their *hearts* have they truly found Him!

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MARCH 15, 1978

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he Story of Deborah Hines King

by Bev Herring
Mount Olive College News Bureau

God Calls a Young Woman to Service



Deborah King with Filipino friends

SOME girls dream of becoming models or movie stars or dress designers. But Deborah Hines ing's dreams included missionary work in a far off land; and oday, she and her husband, Wayne, are serving Jesus Christ in ne Philippines.

Deborah is the daughter of George and Joan Hines of Route 1, Greenville, where she was raised in Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church.

"On June 10, 1968, while I was working at Cragmont, I elt God calling me to be a missionary," Deborah said.

Later in the summer, she met a handsome young pastor named Wayne King; but it was not until the following summer when they met again, that a strong attraction developed.

King was a Free Will Baptist from Florida called to preach t Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church in Beulaville.

"I thought if the attraction was so strong between us, Wayne would naturally want to become a missionary with me, but he did not!" Deborah relayed.

Feeling that she must hold to her plans for the mission ield, Deborah could see no future in their relationship. She said good-bye to Wayne when she left for her freshman year at Mount Olive College.

"When I arrived at Mount Olive, all I talked about was Wayne," she said. "Finally in October, a close Christian friend of mine told me if I had enough faith, God would work everything out. So I called Wayne and told him I was sorry about saying good-bye," Deborah said.

From then on Deborah and Wayne began seeing each other almost every day. They were engaged in March the following year and married in June of 1970.

Settled Into Pastoring

Deborah returned to graduate from Mount Olive the following year and completed her training as a high school teacher at East Carolina University.

"When I graduated from East Carolina, I couldn't find a teaching position in any of the schools. I finally found a position in a program for children with reading disabilities. I can see now, how this training helped my work with the Filipino children where learning is slow because of language barriers," Deborah explained.

The Commitment Is Made

In October, 1974, the Kings committed to go to the Mission field. "The four years spent as a pastor's wife were so valuable in my training as a missionary," Deborah stated.

"Wayne came to me one night in October and told me he'd read a book called, **The Challenge of Missions** that had really inspired him. He expressed such concern over the many people who have never heard the gospel while it is so available to many who do not listen in this country. When he said he was ready to go overseas and preach the gospel, I cried for joy! God had truly worked everything out for His glory," Deborah exclaimed.

The Kings next approached Joe Ingram as Director of the Free Will Baptist Mission Board and announced their intentions to serve the denomination anywhere they were needed.

To The Philippines

In March, 1975, the Kings arrived at Manila International Airport in the Philippines.

"I know I was supposed to suffer from culture shock, but I was so excited about being there, I didn't even see any differences between there and home until a month or two later," Deborah claimed.

Upon arriving, Deborah and Wayne studied language in Quezon City. Every two weeks they would travel on the islands of Palawan, Cebu, and in Southern Luzon where Quezon city is located.

Turn to Next Page

Because there are 7,100 islands that make up the Philippines, there are travel barriers from jungles, water, and mountains in every direction.

"Most often we would fly in two engine planes to the island for our stay of two weeks," Deborah said.

Once on land, paths are cut through the thick undergrowth with long bladed machetes. Travel by foot is often 8-10 hours a day to reach the village.

"Because it takes us so long to reach the villages, we work almost every waking hour because we are never sure we can return without a long absence," she explained.

"Everyone is awake by sun-up to work before the heat of the day. I take the women and children for Bible study around 7 a.m. using visual aids I have brought from the States," added Deborah.

Wayne teaches the men and during the evening services, which are held every night, the people will sit and listen as long as he preaches. "Many are starved for the hope of the gospel," she said.

Teaching methods include stories with pictures to help build a knowledge by every means available. Booklets are given out so that each villager can work and progress at his own pace.

Although the Filipino custom is to rest during the midday, and go to bed soon after dark, Deborah stated a typical evening includes a gathering of villagers around a fire with a guitar when guests come to visit.



The Rev. and Mrs. Wayne King

"The Filipino people are very friendly by nature," Deborah said, "and because of the remoteness of the island provinces, guests are treated very special."

The village children bring bathwater to the house for guests to bathe, however; village families all take their baths in the river. The accepted Filipino custom is for men and guests to eat first, followed the the women and children.

"We are given plates to eat from but often the families we visit use the leaves of banana trees as their plates," she said. "At night, we are given mats to sleep on; and if there are two sleeping rooms, we are always given one, even if the entire family must sleep all together in the other one. That is the kind of giving people they are," Deborah added.

Deborah Begins Teaching

In July of 1976, Deborah began teaching the children of other missionaries in the Mission School in Manila. Wayne continued travels that lasted about two weeks at a time. At the same time she noticed a strange tingling sensation in her toes. At first she paid little attention because of the great distance she had walked on foot while traveling with Wayne.

Stricken With Illness

However, in August she noticed some of her toes had become numb and her hands began to have a tingling sensation.

Although she was assured by the doctor that such symptoms were not necessarily serious, her condition progressed until she lost feeling in both feet and began experiencing a numbness in her hands.

Sometime later she was referred to a neurologist and given tests only to find her had suffered nerve damage and also had high levels of toxic material in her blood stream.

"By November, a group of missionaries associated with the mission school got together and with the laying on of hands, annointed me with oil and prayed claiming the scripture for healing in the book of James," Deborah said. "I didn't feel anything immediately but there was a great sense of joy and we stayed talking and praising God, accepting that my healing had taken place."

When she got up to leave, she realized the numbness was completely gone. "I've never been bothered again!" Deborah exclaimed.

Illness Strikes Again

After receiving God's healing touch in November, Deborah returned back to work with zeal assuming her problems were now ended.

"During Christmas vacation I began to feel very tired. In doing my chores I would run into furniture. For no apparent reason my muscles would collapse and leave me on the floor." Deborah described.

When Deborah placed a call to her neurologist, she found the doctor vacationing in Australia. She went to a muscle specialist. After running even more tests, the muscle specialist diagnosed her illness as myastonia, a rare nerve disorder that causes muscular disability. He further indicated that Deborah would eventually become an invalid.

In the meantime the neurologist returned from Australia and Deborah arrived at her office for an appointment in mid-January.

"I was so weak I almost passed out in her office." Deborah was immediately placed in the hospital and another

series of tests were administered including a spinal tap resulting in evidence of possible multiple sclerosis.

It was the suggestion of her neurologist that she return to the States immediately.

"Being told I must return home was the hardest burden to bear," Deborah said, "My prayer throughout it all, was to remain in the Philippines."

Deborah's muscle condition grew progressively worse. "I would try to wash my hair and my arms would collapse. I would try to raise them and they refused to move at all."

It was necessary for Wayne to feed Deborah before final arrangements could be made to return to the States.

"I knew God could heal me because He had done it before but there was a reason He wanted us home," she added.

On North Carolina Soil

On February 17, 1977, Deborah and Wayne arrived on North Carolina soil. The next week she entered the hospital at Chapel Hill where a team of neurologists examined her muscle weakness. She was then scheduled for a return date and allowed to go home.

During this time the Mission Evangelism Conference was scheduled at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church outside Goldsboro on Saturday, March 12. Although warned to stay in bed, Deborah attended the morning session. By noon she felt so tired she left for the home of Joe and Peggy Ingram in Goldsboro but not before she agreed tor the delegation to have a prayer for her healing at the afternoon service. Wayne was designated to stand in her place since by marriage "The two shall become one" (Mark 10:8).

While Peggy stayed with Deborah, the ministers in the conference delegation gathered together laying hands on Wayne and claiming the healing scripture in the Bible in James Chapter 5, Verses 14, 15: "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." Dr. Raper, president of Mount Olive College, annointed Wayne and led in prayer.

Tests and More Tests

The next week, Deborah entered the hospital at Chapel Hill for a battery of tests. "They re-ran all those tests done in the Philippines and those done when I first arrived home," Deborah explained. "They wanted a total recheck."

Deborah stated that she and Wayne both had great faith that the tests would be negative.

When the doctors returned, they either reported finding no effects of myastonia; a normal reaction to the spinal tap; no toxic metal in the blood stream and only a slowness of reaction in the nerve endings that would clear up with rest.

"The doctors couldn't understand how all those tests that were negative could suddenly be normal and they wanted to start rescheduling the recheck tests." Deborah explained, "I just gleamed with joy."

To God Be the Glory

"Coming home was so hard and yet by coming home, I have had so many loving Christians tell me how the Lord has touched their bodies, too," Deborah said.

"We just praise God for His goodness and His healing power that is given to all people everywhere as He promised in the Bible, through our Precious Lord Jesus Christ," Deborah said.

In Conclusion

Deborah and Wayne left for the Philippines in October, 1977. Deborah reports excellent health and the exciting news that the Kings are expecting their first child.

COMING ATTRACTION

IS RELIGION REALLY NECESSARY?

Starring: Teenagers Caught in Death Trap

RATED PG

A Christian Home for Boys and Girls

free will baptist children's home



MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

"COME, ALL YE. . . CHILD CARE TOMORROW"

Our Lord said, "come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." The first portion of this verse and numerous other verses describes to us the all inclusiveness of God's love for mankind. "All ye," He says, "are welcome in My kingdom."

As one looks for the changing face of our society, one sees any number of new groups, sub-cultures and changes in the life styles of even middle-class America taking place. The absence of war in which Americans are fighting and dying and the presence of sweeping social programs have made quite an impact on the child-care ministries throughout our country.

Using our own Children's Home as an example, we can note several changes in numbers of children in care, programing, and in the people who implement the programs. There has been a steady decline in the number of children in care during the last two decades. It is believed that this decline will continue in the future. Programming has changed significantly since most children now have one or both parents living. This factor complicates the traditional programs designed merely to care for orphans. Lastly, the people who implement the programs, houseparents, social workers and administrators, are a different breed of people today.

Free Will Baptists are dedicated people who have accepted the challenge of our Lord to minister to all people. Therefore, as our culture continues to change, new unique ministries, as well as reconstruction of those already in existence, are necessary for us to fulfill our Lord's invitation adequately. The Children's Home is no less affected than any other of our denominational programs.

In the weeks to come an attempt will be made to inform our people of changes going on from day to day and of those we expect in the future in our child-care ministry. We do not see the future as problems to be overcome, rather, we see it as bold new frontiers of ministry yet to be touched by the hands of our loving Lord.

In the words of Annie Johnson Flint:

"Christ has no hands but our hands
To do His work today;
He has no feet but our feet
To lead men in His way;
He has no tongue but our tongues
To tell men how He died;
He had no help but our help
To bring them to His side."

CHANGE IN EASTER VACATION DATES

Due to the recent snow our children have missed several days of school. They must make up these lost school days during the time allotted for Easter Vacation.

Because of these changes in our school schedule we have to shorten our holiday period. Our Easter Vacation will be changed to Friday, March 24, to Monday, March 27. You may arrive for the children after school on Friday and return them Monday afternoon around 5 p. m.

Please contact me to confirm your plans to take a child on this weekend or if you have any questions regarding these changes.

Thank you,
Sam Lane
Director of Child Care

THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CARE

For several years now Children's Homes all across the country have experienced a decline in the number of children served during the year. In 1967 the Free Will Baptist Children's Home cared for a total of 100 children during the year. At the close of that year there were 88 children on campus. In years prior to that there had been as many as 100 children and more on campus at one time. In 1977 the Home cared for a total of 90 children. At the close of the year there were 71 children on campus and in college. As of today, there are 60 children on campus and 4 children in college.

One can quickly see that there has been a steady decline in the number of children in care over the past several years. There are a number of reasons why this decline came about. One, of course, is the absence of war. There are few orphans in our country today. Only 19 of the 90 children cared for in 1977 were half orphans. Another reason for the decline is the cultural and social changes in our society and the kind of child this new society has produced. With the divorce rate at nearly 50 per cent of all marriages, homes absent of mothers as a result of both parents needing to work, the decline in the public school programs and numerous other social problems, nearly 10,000 families in North Carolina had problems that required investigation for abuse and neglect. Another 3,205 families had severe problems needing counseling services.

Children's Homes offer around 1,900 placements for children in North

(Continued on Page 14)

NEWS & NOTES

Smith's New Home Church Announces Revival

Revival services will begin at 7:30 each evening starting March 20 and continuing through March 24 at the Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Deep Run. The Rev. Jerry English of Rockingham will be the guest speaker. Special music will be provided each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Bobby Harrell, and members invite all to attend.

Revival Announced at Edgewood Church

The members of the Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church near Crisp, are looking forward to a week of revival services beginning at 7:30 Monday night, March 20, continuing through Saturday night, March 25, with the Rev. Robert May of Ahoskie as the evangelist. Special music will be provided each evening by the local church and also by visiting groups. The pastor, the Rev. Rex Edwards, joins the members in inviting everyone to attend these services.

Revival In Progress at Watery Branch Church

Revival services are in progress at Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Stantonsburg, which began March 13, and will continue through March 18. The Rev. Charles Suggs from Goldsboro is the evangelist. Services begin each night at 7:30 with special music being presented. Following the revival on Sunday night, March 19, the Heaven Bound Quartet will feature music.

The Rev. Clinton Davis, pastor, and the church membership cordially invite everyone to attend and worship the Lord in these services.

Christian Chapel Church Announces Pre-Easter Services

The Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Pink Hill, has scheduled Pre-Easter services for March 20-24, at 7:30 each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Norman Ard, will be the speaker.

On Easter Sunday during the regular service, the YFA will present an Easter play under the direction of Audrey Powell. Featured also will be songs by the youth and adult choirs.

Whaley's Chapel Church Announces Revival

Revival Services at Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church at Hargett's Crossroads in Jones County, will begin March 20 and continue through the 24. The guest speaker for the week will be the Rev. Delmas J. Brown of Route 2, Dover, assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Andrew Hill of Deep Run. The Rev. Brown is presently serving as pastor of People's Chapel church in Wilson County. Everyone is cordially invited. They will have special singing throughout the week also.

Revival Now In Progress At Hickory Grove Church

Revival services are now in progress at Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church, located on Highway 33, 4 miles from Bethel. Services began on March 13 and will continue through March 18 beginning at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Robert May is the guest evangelist.

The pastor, the Rev. Hubert Burress, invites all to attend the remaining services.

Central District Youth Convention To Be Held

The Central District Youth Convention will be held, Saturday, March 18, beginning at 10 a.m. at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville. Business will include Bible Bowl run-off, judging of essays and declamations; and choosing nominees for the offices of State vice president and secretary will be selected, who will go to the State Convention at Beaverdam Free Will Baptist Church on April 22.

The program will be provided by the Maranatha Trio. Lunch will be served. Please attend!

Powhatan Church To Hold Revival

The Rev. Kemery Ard and the members of Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church wishes to extend to everyone a special invitation to attend their revival on March 20-24. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Ray Wells, pastor of Free Will Baptist Church at Selma, is guest speaker.

Revival and Sunrise Service Announced At Wintergreen Church

Revival services will begin on March 20 and continue through March 24 at Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church near Cove City. The Rev. Noah Brown of Saints Delight Church will be the guest speaker, assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Bobby Brown. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 with special singing provided each evening. Everyone is invited to attend.

Wintergreen Church will have Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday, March 26.

Question: Please explain "And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute?" (Matthew 17:24). Why was it required of our Lord Jesus Christ that He pay taxes since He neither owned property nor was engaged in any kind of trade?

Answer: It seems that this was not that kind of a tax. It was a religious tax that apparently was required of all adult Jews and was part of that needed to maintain the temple in its requirement in keeping with the law. Probably it was not solicited in this manner throughout all the history of the tabernacle and temple.

In Jesus' day rulers were not descendants of David as should have been, but Edomites, descendants of Esau and they wielded influence that brought the high priests to their office rather than the Edomites coming to their office as God had required being a descendant of Aaron and the oldest male descendant of the previous high priest. The Romans, of course, had the final say in such things.

When Jesus came to John the Baptist for baptism and John declined on the grounds of what he assumed himself to be, not eligible to perform this sacred rite in behalf of one superior in office to him which of course Jesus was. "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him" (Matthew 3:13-15). It not only became John and his Lord to fulfill all righteousness, but each of us.

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. . . .But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. . . .For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" (Ephesians 2:10, 13, 18-20).

George H. Sandison helps us with this question in the answer he gives to a similar question in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered** as follows:

"In Matthew 17:24 we read that the tax collector came to Peter saying: 'Doth not your master pay tribute?' The Revised Version renders this passage in such a way as to bring out the particular tax which is referred to: 'And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received the half shekel came to Peter and said, Doth not your master pay the half shekel?' Following this rendering we learn the tribute or tax referred to to be the gift required by the Mosaic Law from all Jews, to meet the expenses of the tabernacle or temple service. Josephus tells us that this tax had come to be collected annually from all Jews over twenty years of age. The tax being for religious purposes, all men shared in it irrespective of their trade or calling and the tax was paid by our Lord as a worshiping Jew who 'fulfilled all righteousness.'"

Answering Your **QUESTIONS**

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

All articles, announcements, etc., intended for publication in the "Baptist" must be in the hands of the editor or his staff seven days prior to the publication date of the issue for which submissions are intended. The magazine is closed out at noon on Wednesday, so submissions intended for inclusion should be processed by Wednesday morning. Please remember these facts when submitting your materials.

Articles are printed in accord with time sequence, as space allows, and at the editor's discretion. We strive to serve everyone and every denominational element to the best of our ability, and no preferential treatment is accorded any person or institution purposefully. If for some reason your article does not merit inclusion in the "Baptist," there may be several reasons; namely, the article arrived too late; there was not sufficient space for coverage; a similar article was printed and included in a recent issue; and the point of view was not judged to be consistent with Press or denominational policy.

We appreciate your contributions to the magazine and request your cooperation in helping us meet our designated deadline. Ministers are especially urged to submit feature articles.

—The Editor

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Wilson W. Parker announces that he is available for full-time pastoral work. He may be contacted by writing the Rev. Wilson W. Parker, 209 Whitley Drive, Smithfield, North Carolina, or by phoning 934-7409.

Auxiliaries IN Action



ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES!

Now is the time for you to collect your per capita dues, if you have not already done so. These dues should be collected during the first months of the year, in time to be sent to your district treasurer before, or in time for your district convention. The dues are $.40 per member per year.

Send these dues to your district treasurer; she will keep $.20 and send $.20 to your state treasurer. It is necessary that you cooperate in this as these dues provide a part of the funds for the operational expenes of your convention. Singly we can do very little; together we can accomplish much. Let us continue to work together. Thank you.

Your State Treasurer,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser

ATTENTION, CAPE FEAR DISTRICT AUXILIARY WOMEN

Just Suppose. . .

You were more than 8,000 miles from home and family, expecting your first child and had the responsibility of establishing a Bible Institute for training native pastors.

You were a pioneer missionary and had literally spent your life and that of your family going into new, unclaimed areas preaching the gospel and establishing churches under difficult circumstances.

You were a native missionary and had 41 other native pastors working under you, 19 of whom were dependent on a country far beyond the sea for their salary. Persecutors from other faiths were tormentiong your workers; yet in spite of this, thousands were begging for the gospel in their area.

You had founded a church on the border of a foreign country, and had 6 classes for boys and girls; 1 for women; and 2 for the elderly; meeting each week with 38 Bible classes, other than the regular services, held each month.

Then you learned . . .

That the Cape Fear District Auxiliary was more than $100 under its Foreign Mission quota.

You will not fail our missionaries, I know. When women know the needs they rally to the cause. More important, we must not fail God. Send your quota right away; if you have met yours and can send more, do. The book will not be closed until April 1. Mail all funds to Mrs. R. Y. Stephenson, Route 1, Box 362, Clayton, North Carolina 27520.

Mrs. Norvell Dawson
Cape Fear District Missions Chairman

MOUNT OLIVE

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at Cabin Free Will Baptist Church near Beulaville, Sunday, March 19, at the 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services.

The Rev. William Littleton is pastor.

HERRING ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Effective March 1, Harold Herring, Jr., director of development at Mount Olive Colege since 1974, began a leave of absence to campaign for, and if elected, serve as President of the North Carolina Jaycees.

"It is anticipated that no replacement staff person will be added in the development office at this time," commented President W. Burkette Raper. "To the fullest extent possible, the development functions will be distributed among the present personnel of the College," he said.

Herring, who has been an active Jaycee in Mount Olive since 1974, is currently serving as Southeast Regional Director for the State Organization. As regional director, he is responsible for over 60 Jaycee chapters in 15 southeastern counties. Herring's accomplishments have won him numerous local, state, and national awards including recognition as one of the Five Outstanding Young Men named in North Carolina for 1978, the highest Jaycee service award given in the state.

"All of us at Mount Olive College commend Herring for his extra-ordinary achievements in Jaycee work and we extend to him our sincere best wishes in his commitment to provide statewide leadership to this very fine organization," President Raper said.

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will give a program of song and testimony at Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church in Selma on Sunday, March 19, at the 11 a.m. service.

The Rev. Raymond Sasser is pastor.



SUNDAY, MARCH 19

Scripture Reading—Acts 7:38

MEET THE 'TATER FAMILY

Practically every church has some interesting families in the membership. Others have some rather outstanding families in them. Still other churches number among their constituency families which are both interesting and outstanding. The latter is especially true of the TATER family. Arthur Flake is credited with saying that the family includes: Dic-Tater, Hesi-Tater, Agi-Tater, Imi-Tater, and Spec-Tater.

Uncle Dic-Tater has some very lovable characteristics, and is usually easy to get along with, especially if he is allowed to have his own way. The truth of the matter is that he is going to have his own way or else. His policy seems to be that of "rule or ruin," and he usually ruins.

Aunt Hesi-Tater is the amiable wife of Uncle Dic-Tater. She, too, has some very lovable qualities, but her greatest fault seems to be that of always waiting for someone else to go ahead. This characteristic is probably due in part to the dominant attitude of her husband. She is a rather timid soul, and quite hesitant about advancing her ideas or doing anything without waiting for the advice of someone else, especially her husband.

Cousin Imi-Tater is quite an attractive young lady, and has some qualities which are not seen in any other member of the family. Perhaps her greatest lack is that of originality. She always wants to do what other people do, and that in spite of what God says in Exodus 23:2, "Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil."

Cousin Agi-Tater is the other girl in the family, and is quite different from her mother or sister. Although she seems to be possessed of unflagging zeal and unlimited energy, she is constantly stirring up trouble. She is somewhat of a loose-tongued busybody. Apparently, she has not learned what God means when He says, "Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people" (Leviticus 19:16).

Cousin Spec-Tater is the only son in the family, and seems to be obsessed with the idea that he is outnumbered by the feminine portion of the family. He is a quiet, humble, unassuming sort of fellow. His worst fault is that he never does nothing. He simply sits or stands quietly by and looks on without much comment about what the others do.

Do you belong to the Tater family?

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should always want to do our part in helping to carry on the message of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

MONDAY, MARCH 20

Scripture Reading—1 John 1:9

GOD'S GOOD NEWS

A thief broke into a Buffalo, New York, church and got away with some valuable equipment and several dollars from a collection box. The next day the church's outside bulletin board carried the words, "If the person who burglarized this church will contact the pastor, he will receive important news." Interested, reporters called on the pastor. "What's the good news?" they wanted to know. Replied the pastor, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God will forgive all sins, if we are faithful and believe on Him. Isn't that great?

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Scripture Reading—John 10:22

BELIEF VERSUS DISCIPLESHIP

To believe costs nothing; to follow Christ is expensive.

I believe in Christ's work for me, but discipleship is the result of His work in me.

Believers consider themselves first; disciples consider Christ first.

Believers (only) produce no perfect fruit, but disciples are known by their fruit.

Belief saves my soul, but discipleship glorifies Christ.

Believers (only) are not necessarily known as Christians, but disciples are known as Christians.

Believers go to heaven; disciples are richly rewarded there.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christians should not only believe in Christ Jesus, but should want to want for Him and be His disciples. What more can you do for a person who loves you so?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 20:22

DR. ROBERT G. LEE'S CONVERSION

One morning when I was a boy the preacher preached a sermon which I think now must have been on the subject, "The Gates of Heaven." In the sermon he asked, "If the gates of heaven were opened, would you enter?"

The question startled me. I knew that if the gates of heaven were opened that day I would not enter, because I could not claim to be a Christian boy.

That night the preacher's text was, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called the Christ?" He said very simply and earnestly that to accept Christ as Saviour meant heaven, that to reject Him as Saviour meant hell.

I went home that night with the most wretched feeling. I could not sleep. I got up in the night, slipped out of the window that opened on the back porch, and went down to the moonlit watermelon patch. It was a beautiful clear night, and I thought of the heaven beyond the stars and of the hell somewhere in some vast region below.

At the breakfast table next morning, my mother said, "Son, you look like you didn't sleep much last night."

"No, ma' am," I said, "I didn't."

"What was the matter?"

"I feel awfully sinful," I admitted.

I had to plow that day. My misery grew until finally I drove out to the end of a long row and dropped the plow down by the side of Barney, my old white mule. I got down in the fence corner, the corner of an old rail fence, and told God I felt awfully bad—awfully sinful—and that I wanted to be saved.

"If one must accept Jesus to be saved," I prayed, "then I accept Him."

There in a fence corner the Lord saved me.

That night—the text of the preacher's sermon I do not now remember—I walked right down the church aisle and let it be known that the Lord has saved me.

I do remember the hymn they sang: "Out of my bondage, sorrow, and night;

Jesus, I come! Jesus, I come!
Into thy freedom, gladness, and light;

Jesus, I come to Thee."

The peace which came to me in the fence corner is in my heart until this day.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you remember where you were when Jesus saved you? Some people never forget the time, place, and day.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

Scripture Reading—Psalm 10:3

"WHY DOST THOU WANT MY LAND?"

We've heard of an old Quaker who advertised that he would give 40 acres of rich farm land to anyone who was perfectly satisfied with that which he had. One seeker came to see the Quaker.

"Are thee perfectly satisfied with what thee hast?"

"Yes," answered the hopeful guest.

"Then why dost thee want this land?" was the old Quaker's significant reply.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Are you willing to accept what God gave to you? Didn't He give you a lot? Isn't it wonderful!

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

Scripture Reading—Philippians 2:8

WHY WE MAY HAVE PEACE

A young lady was dying, and one Scripture which she had heard in health came to her at this time: "He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed," and she was led by the Holy Spirit to rest in him of whom it spoke, for salvation. A friend said to her one day, "You suffer much, I fear." "Yes," she said, "but," pointing to her hand, "there is no nail there. He had the nails; I have the peace." Laying her hand on her brow, she said, "There are no thorns here. He had the thorns; I have the peace." Touching her side she said, "There is no spear here. He had the spear; I have the peace."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should have a calm peace of heart knowing that we have Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. What more should a person want?

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 21:8

THE LAND OF THE LIVING

When the Puritan Owen lay on his deathbed his secretary wrote (in his name) to a friend, " 'I am still in the land of the living.' Stop, alter that," said Owen. " 'I am yet in the land of the dying, but I hope soon to be in the land of the living.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

God has gone to prepare a place for us as Christians, so that we will be in the "land of the living." Oh, what a wonderful time it will be and such a beautiful place.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH HOLDS SPECIAL SERVICE

Sunday, February 5, officers and committee chairmen of the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, for the years 1978-1979 were installed as follows: President, Judy Strickland; vice-president, Maloye Williams; secretary, Clentis Capps; treasurer, Sandy Chapman; program chairman, Mavis Davis; missions chairman, Mae Belle Strickland; youth chairman, Kay Tippett; study course chairman, Geneva Wilder; benevelance chairman, Virginia Wilder; and corresponding secretary, Penina Edwards.

The Rev. Dwight Chapman, minister was in charge of the very impressive candlelight service as members accepted their responsibilities. The topic of his morning message was "Lights In The World" using as the Scripture Matthew 5:14-16. Special music was by auxiliary members, and the Rev. and Mrs. Chapman singing a duet. "All The Way My Saviour Leads Me," the 1978 theme song, concluded the worship service as "Women Working Together in Christ." A floral arrangement in auxiliary colors, Carolina blue, royal blue and silver adorned the pulpit table.

At the Western District Fall Convention in 1977, each auxiliary had selected a "Faithful Follower" from their church and honored them in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Free Will Baptist

(Continued on Page 13)



THE FRIGHTENED STRANGER

by Nancy Matthews

LEAH was afraid.

She didn't understand what all the confusion was about.

First, for weeks there was all this talk between her mother and father. Sometimes they talked feverishly, other times in near whispers late into the night. Excitement seemed to surround them as her mother made bread or her bearded father came in from tending the sheep.

A great teacher was coming to town. And the rumors about this teacher were more exciting and more magical than the fairy tales her sister, Ruth, and her brother, Mark, read to her at bedtime.

Then for days, visitors had been crowding into the village—and staying. Like on holiday, they were joyous, singing loudly in the streets, stopping all the noise suddenly at intervals—expectantly—as a new rumor quickly spread through the mass.

At the touch of his hand, an old blind man could now see. A crazy man who lived like an animal among the tombs was brought to sanity—with just a few words from this stranger. One lady touched his robe and was made well. On and on the stories went. Each one more thrilling than the one before.

The Roman soldiers, their breastplates of brass newly polished by their Jewish slaves rode their purebred horses haughtily through the crowd, adding clopping noises to the confusion. They were furious because of the extra work. They used the handles of their spears unkindly to jostle the people, dogs, and camels from their paths.

"It is not safe on the streets," Leah's mother warned the children.

Leah, Mark, and Ruth crouched inside the courtyard, peeking through the slats of the fence. Their mother anxiously kept check from the doorway.

"Will we get to see him?" Leah asked.

"You are silly, Leah. Do you think with all these grown-ups he would have time for children?" Mark asked.

"Anyway," Ruth supposed, "I'd be afraid of him. I'll bet he's as tall as a palm tree, and his feet as big as water jugs."

"Shucks, yes!" Mark exclaimed, "and he could clean this street with one sweep of his hand. Didn't you hear how he chased all those people out of the temple?"

The rumble in the street changed. "He's on the ridge outside the city," someone yelled. "You'd better hurry if you want to get close enough to hear him!"

The commotion increased. Humans, horses, camels, like mad storm waters swirled down the cobbled street.

Then the street was empty. A stray dog, finding himself alone, ran for cover. A deadly quiet settled over the debris left by the crowd.

"Why don't they hurry?" Mark asked, excitement shining in his eyes.

Leah was trembling. Why would anyone want to get close to a god-giant who could toss a body clear across the Red Sea should he take a notion? Leah preferred to stay home. But what if that stranger came and she was all alone?

Their mother and father came hurrying out of the house and they made their way rapidly toward the crowd. At each noise Leah squeezed her mother's hand more tightly.

They neared the rocky hillside, now with the face covered over with people moving, stretching, crowding, pushing to get a better view.

The crowd momentarily opened up to the crest of the ridge. The giant-man was not there, but Leah could see several men talking among themselves. Waiting. How could they look so calm?

Out of nowhere, a soldier's horse sprang between Leah and her mother, and Leah fell to the ground. She picked herself up hurriedly and looked around for her family. The crowd had swallowed them up.

What if the giant-man comes and I'm all alone, she wondered frightfully. Being on the outer edge, she began running away. Away from the crowd. Anywhere to get away. Her heart was beating so violently her chest was actually hurting when she gasped for breath. She slipped around the huge boulders at the side of the hill. She felt safer. She didn't fear as badly being trampled by the people or the horses, or the giant-man finding her.

She sat down on a rock and her heart quieted to almost normal. It was then she heard a sob. Not the sniff of a child—but a grown-up sob. A sob like her father when baby Jonathan died during his second winter.

Leah half turned. Then she saw him. His head was bowed, his hands folded in prayer. A stranger. Probably like herself, afraid.

Leah knew how badly it felt to be alone and afraid. She walked over to him, and placed her hand on his shoulder.

"Don't be afraid, Sir," Leah said softly. "You're not alone. I'm with you."

The stranger opened his eyes and looked at the little girl,

The stranger opened his eyes and looked at the little girl. His fear must have vanished, his eyes were smiling gently, kindly, lovingly.

"Thank you," he said taking her hand. "Sometimes it **is** frightening to be alone, isn't it?"

They sat for a moment in silence.

"Where are your parents?" he asked.

"A horse came by and they got lost in that crowd of people who came to see the giant-god."

"Giant-god?" he asked.

"Yes, the great teacher. I don't blame you for hiding here. Mark says he's probably tall as a palm tree."

"Who's Mark?"

"He's my brother."

"I wouldn't be surprised if Mark hasn't made a mistake," he said, smiling.

"Really?"

"Shouldn't you be getting back to your family? They're probably worried."

"How about you?" she asked, not wanting to leave him alone. He may weep again. "Is your family lost, too?"

"I came with a group of men."

"Maybe I could help you find them," she offered. "What did they look like?"

"One was a tall big man, red-headed. But not tall as a palm tree," he teased.

"Oh!" she said happily. "I saw them. They were at the top of the ridge. Come on," she said getting up. "Don't be afraid. I'll help you find them."

She took his hand and led him back to the waiting crowd. No one noticed the tall man, and the little girl smiling reassurance to him.

"See?" she asked pointing straight ahead, "They're right where I remembered. See the big red-headed man? Are those your friends?"

"Yes, they are," he answered thankfully. "You have been most helpful."

"Leah!" she heard her mother exclaim. "Where have you been? We've looked all over for you."

"Mama, we," Leah said proudly indicating the stranger, "we both got lost. But we weren't afraid. We had each other."

"Thank you for finding us," Leah's mother told him. "We were worried almost sick."

"You're welcome," he said, lightly touching the top of Leah's golden curls. "I must be going. My friends are waiting."

"What is your name, Sir?" the mother asked.

"My name is Jesus," He said then began making His way up the hill.

A hush fell as He turned and lifted His hands, palms down, over the people.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not," he said, "for of such is the Kingdom of God."

Leah gasped and covered her mouth with her hand. He is the great teacher, she thought! And she was not afraid anymore.

Friendship Church Holds Special Service

(Continued from Page 11)

Woman's Auxiliary. Mrs. Henry Congleton was the chosen one from Friendship church. After the installation service Mrs. Congleton was presented a plaque honoring her as recipient of this coveted award by Mrs. Geneva Wilder, a charter member of Friendship Woman's Auxiliary. As president for many years, she reminisced happy occasions spent with the honoree and her children and grandchildren with whom she had visited and taught as a school teacher, Sunday school teacher, and Bible School director. Members had voted by secret ballot for a member who had served as a "Faithful Follower."



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Congleton

Mrs. Congleton through continuous acts of love and kindness, visits the shut-ins and needy, carrying a remembrance of her concern with a smile and happy chuckle always—a lady small in statue, but a large heart full of love. Bubbling over with enthusiasm—she has inspired young and old like by her faithfulness and participation in all phases of church and community activity in her own way—humbly and graciously, loved by all who have had the joy of knowing a Christian friend.

Her husband also has served his church and community well, being a deacon, member of the pulpit committee, and a mason. They are the parents of five children, all of whom show respect and love to a dedicated mother and father. They are Mrs. Clifton (Frances) Croom, Route 4, Zebulon; Mrs. Nelson (Rosa) O'Neal, Route 12, Zebulon; Charles, Route 1, Wendell; A. B. of Raleigh; and James of Smithfield.

Mrs. Odell (Penina) Edwards
Corresponding Secretary

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For March 26

POWER OF THE RESURRECTED CHRIST

Lesson Text: Acts 4:5-20
Memory Verse: Acts 4:12

I. INTRODUCTION

Quite properly, the attention of both those who attack and those who defend the truth of the Christian message is concentrated upon the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Laying aside all opinion and irrelevant arguments, we are driven to one of two conclusions: either Jesus Christ arose from the dead on the third day after His crucifixion, or He did not. It is as simple as that.

Volumes beyond counting have considered this historical event, and rightly so. If Jesus did, in fact, conquer the grave as He had clearly and confidently foretold, He accomplished what is impossible for mere man to do. On the human plane, death is inevitable, invincible, and emphatically final. But if the power of God was demonstrated through His Son in His resurrection from the dead, then every claim Jesus made about himself is confirmed: He is indeed the Son of God with power beyond question.

Last week's lesson showed Peter and John healing a lame man in the temple. A crowd quickly gathered about the leaping and shouting man, whom every one recognized as the cripple who daily sat at the temple gate begging alms. Preaching to the crowd, Peter affirmed that this man had been healed by the power of the resurrected Christ. The temple authorities soon came, arresting the two apostles and putting them in jail overnight. This lesson continues the story as it unfolded the next day.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Christ's main opponents during His earthly ministry were the Pharisees, but the main opponents of the ministry of the Early Church were the Sadducees. This was because the Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection from the dead, and the apostles were preaching the Resurrection of Jesus.

B. When the authorities called Peter and John in, they made it clear that they did not want them to preach the Resurrection of Jesus. In fact, they demanded that they not even preach in His name. Peter made it clear to them that they were not going to comply with this demand because they "should obey God rather than men."

C. Peter and John felt they had a moral obligation to preach to the people about Jesus. What was the origin of this moral obligation? It appears that it was what Jesus Christ had done for them. Hasn't He done enough for every Christian to place each under a moral obligation to be a witness to Him and His resurrection?

D. The authorities could not argue with the fact that the man had been healed. The one unanswerable argument for Jesus Christ is the lives He has changed.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The apostles were threatened and told not to speak anymore in the name of Jesus. Yet they continued to testify of Him. Behind the iron curtain men are threatened and forbidden to teach Christ publicly. Yet they go underground and continue their witness. In America, we are neither threatened nor forbidden to speak for Christ. Then why do we not cover this land and the world with our testimony?

B. Could it be that so-called Christian America needs a sweeping wave of persecution so we will do as the first Christians? Would going to prison for witnessing for Christ cause us to cherish our relationship with God more sincerely? Such a situation is not necessarily impossible.

C. The Christian's ultimate loyalty belongs to God. Allegiance to human authorities is important and has a rightful place, but must never be allowed to detract from our total submission to Christ.

D. Jesus Christ, for us as well as the apostles, is the great model for Christian life and witness. The better we know and follow Him today, the better able we will be to stand firm in adversity.

E. Peter declared quite openly that there is salvation in no other name except Jesus. Christians do make a unique claim for their Saviour—He is the only Saviour. While we do recognize that many other religions of the world do contain elements of truth, they are totally unable to make men whole and holy.

—Selected

Children's Home

(Continued from Page 6)

Carolina. There are around 6,000 children who needed placement services in the state in 1977. One must question again why Children's Homes are declining in the number of children in care.

The problem lies in programming. The child needing assistance today is a complex individual. His problems are intensified by his cultural, social, and economical environment. It is predicted that the number of children needing care will rise, but that the number of children in Children's Homes will decline. In the next installment we will look at the programs of our Children's Home in the past and what programs need to be developed for the future; and in the last installment we will look at the people who will implement these programs.

All Roads Lead To The

EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH CONVENTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1978 10:00 A. M.

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL F.W.B. CHURCH
ROUTE 1, PINK HILL, N. C.



Christian Chapel F.W.B. Church

"PRECIOUS ARE HIS PROMISES"

DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1978

REGISTRATION: 9:30 A.M.

Locations:

Free Will Baptist Church
First Baptist Church

East Third Street
Ayden, North Carolina

ALL VBS LEADERS, TEACHERS,
WORKERS, AND INTERESTED GROUPS
ARE URGED TO ATTEND!

"In hope of eternal life, which God that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (Titus 1:2).

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

CHURCH OF THE MONTH

MARCH 22, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

REEDY BRANCH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Winterville, North Carolina
Willis W. Wilson, Pastor



COULD FLYNT'S SHOOTING HAVE RESULTED FROM SOMEONE'S AVERSION TO HIS AVOWED CHRISTIANITRY?

When Larry Flynt and one of his attorneys were shot and critically injured during a court recess Monday, March 6, minds immediately began to ask "Why?" and "Who?" Flynt was being tried in State Superior Court on obscenity charges stemming from his alleged distribution of obscene material. He was accused of pushing copies of *Hustler* magazine, August, 1977, in Lawrenceville, Georgia.

The 35-year-old Flynt is well-known in the publishing business. His *Hustler* magazine enjoys circulation in the millions of copies per issue, and is perhaps best categorized as a "sex packet from cover to cover." It is one of the top-selling of several such magazines on the porno market.

Known for his liberal views regarding free sex and deviate behavior, Flynt shattered the nerves of his associates and friends in the trade when he announced during late fall, 1977, that he had had a personal experience with Christ. He referred to himself as "*a born-again Christian*," an expression which took on fresher meaning sometime back when President Carter made reference to himself in the same manner and jarred public consciousness to the real meaning of the term.

Flynt's announcement concerning his conversion made national news; and if his name were not known before, it became familiar even to those who otherwise might never have heard of him. Newspapers, magazines, TV and radio newscasts spat out the message: "*Hustler* publisher Larry Flynt embraces Christianity."

A number of people were naturally skeptical and considered the news to be just so much publicity. Admittedly, the approach was different; but the whole business smacked of "Get attention; increase volume; sell more copies."

Perhaps Flynt allayed the doubts of many when he appeared on a popular religious program aired out of Charlotte, February 3. On this appearance he announced to the host of the show and thousands of TV viewers that he was now "a different man—a born-again Christian." He attributed his conversion to the prayers and diligent witness of Evangelist Ruth Carter Stapleton, the President's sister. Flynt even spoke confidently of revamping his best-selling magazine, with plans of reconstructing it completely—changing it from "sex to religion."

There were scoffers, certainly. A magazine that was capitalizing so well on sex would hardly do so well if changed to a religious publication. But Flynt was determined, and though we have no facts confirming the transition, we know of no reason to doubt Flynt's veracity.

As of Wednesday, March 8, one bullet remains lodged in Flynt's stomach. Having undergone two operations, he is still reported in critical condition. Again the questions: "Why?" and "Who?" enter the mind.

The "Why?" may be answered when the "Who?" is known. Some speculate that the shots were fired from the window of an abandoned hotel across the street from where Flynt and his attorney, Gene Reeves, were standing. There were further assumptions that a former associate of Flynt's might be behind the plot, though no names have been mentioned at this writing. There were at least two eye-witnesses, according to police—a man and woman in their early thirties, who are being sought for questioning.

We have compassion for Flynt and his wife, and trust that God's will shall be done in their lives. We would hope that Flynt will recover and carry through with his testimony for Christ. We cannot, of course, attest to his sincerity. We can only hope and pray that he will be allowed to live and will do as much for the *cause of Christianity* as he did for *pornography*.

"As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. (But) . . . in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who love us" (Romans 8:36, 37).

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'CHURCH OF THE MONTH''

REEDY BRANCH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

by Tommy Manning,
with Carrie Smith Cannon,
Martha Moye Braxton,
and Others

Winterville, North Carolina
Willis W. Wilson, Pastor

LIKE a beacon of light, the white spire rises above the houses and stands amid the treetops, speaking its silent message to all who pass by. Night and day it can be seen, from dirt roads and highways, from fields and forests.

Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church located near Winterville, North Carolina, is a sentinel, a legend, a landmark rich in history. It is proud in achievement, grand in appearance, decided in purpose, beautiful in attitude, and altogether dedicated to the cause of Christianity.

Reputed to be the oldest church in Pitt County, Reedy Branch had its origin in post-Revolutionary days—sometime around 1800. All the other churches in Pitt County, it is reported, sprang from this one church; and it has served as mother church to many churches in adjoining counties as well.

Much of what is known about the church has been handed down by tradition, from father to son, from mother to daughter; but memories are accurate enough to bear out irrefutable facts. Many early written records, however, were lost in a fire which destroyed the Pitt County Courthouse in 1854; nonetheless, the information recorded here is considered error-free, as borne out by rewritten accounts and historical data preserved.

The First Building

The first building was of log construction. The ''church house'' boasted a large fireplace, the only means of heat in the wintertime. Pews were simple: benches fashioned from slabs of wood with holes bored in them through which wooden pegs were driven for support. Other furniture was just as simple, and only the essential pieces had been constructed for use: perhaps a large, rough-hewn pulpit, a speaker's stand, an altar, a table, two or three pulpit chairs, and maybe even a deacons' bench—each piece fashioned with care, but not so much for **comfort** as for **service**. By day, windows provided light; by night, lanterns and oil lamps emitted soft glows.

The name ''Reedy Branch'' is significant, but no one remembers if there were much discussion regarding the name. It seemed to come naturally. On the north side of the church there was a branch—or stream of water—that was overgown by reeds. A church built by a **reedy branch**! What better choice could there be for the name? So, Reedy Branch it became, and still is.

During this time, the black people of the South were the property of the white race; and many of the families who chose to come to Reedy Branch were slave owners. Being a ''goodly people,'' the Reedy Branch affiliates wanted their blacks to attend church with them and receive ''the message of the Lord.'' So, in keeping with the custom of the time, a section of the church was set apart for the blacks. It is reported that the blacks were not intimidated. They rather enjoyed the worship, and we can imagine their contribution to the beauty of the services. The mind's ear can hear their melodious, enthusiastic singing wafting above the calmer, more sedate, voices of their white counterparts.

The Civil War

The War Between the States did not break the spirit of the people at Reedy Branch. Though it is probable that there were times when services were not observed on a regular basis, tradition says that Reedy Branch held on with ''fervor and might,'' braving the assaults of a time when everything seemed bad. And in accord with the character of its members, Reedy Branch remained staunch and proud, and, paradoxically, humble, to the point of willingly submitting to the law of the land and of the Lord, which was only proper.

''After the close of the Civil War,'' states Carrie Smith Cannon in her 1950 history of the church, ''the slaves, with the assistance of the Revs. Billie May, Lorenzo Nobles, and James Craft, organized a church of their own near Greenville, which has been known since as English Chapel. The white people assisted them by preaching and acting as clerk until they (the free blacks) were able to carry on for themselves.''

The old log building at Reedy Branch had sustained little if any, damage during the war; and it continued to serve the people for many years. The people came—from ''near and

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far,'' as the expression goes—to worship, to pray, to meditate, to hear His Word, to fellowship, The congregation grew. Some members and visitors walked for miles to worship at the ''church by the branch''; others came on horseback, carts, wagons, and an occasional buggy.

In those days, some of the ''grander'' ladies rode their own well-groomed horses; and to accommodate these ladies, the men of the church placed blocks here and there in the churchyard to assist them in mounting and dismounting. Certainly, more than an occasional hand was offered by a romantically-inclined young man, or a brother, son, or father; but when minds dictated independence or when a hand was not convenient, the ladies were able of their own volition to get off and on their horses—even with parasols aloft. The animals were tied to trees or bushes which spotted the yard. ''The yard was just full of loblolly pines and large oaks; and I remember a hickory nut tree on the north side of the lot,'' one member quipped.

A New Building

As the needs merited such, and as the people became more prosperous after the close of the War Between the States, they erected a new frame building to replace the log structure. The year was 1880 (or thereabout). This church, which was quite large for its day, was soon to prove too small to seat the people who came to worship. But for some twenty years or more, the accommodations, though somewhat inadequate, served to satisfy the members. Closeness was a virtue, and the people felt that a ''full house'' provided a kind of spiritual unity.

During this period, the church congregations were especially large on the first Sunday in May. Those living a long way off would come on Saturday morning to the weekend of services, and were entertained in the homes of members who lived near the church. Communion services were held on Saturday night, and on Sunday morning—that very special morning—scores of people flocked to the church. They hailed from distant towns, communities, and counties. Reedy Branch was a special place, and the first Sunday in May was a special time.

Mrs. Martha Moye Braxton of Winterville recalls vividly those ''first Sundays in May'' which continued well into the twentieth century. She remembers with delight the late 1890s and early 1900s and what grand occasions were observed at the church. Well into her eighties, Miss Martha is one of the oldest members of the church and remembers that she began attending Reedy Branch at the age of three, though her family were members of a neighboring church, Piney Grove. (She moved her membership to Reedy Branch following her marriage to Walter Braxton in the early 1900s).

According to Miss Martha (and confirmed by this writer's mother, her contemporary), ''First Sunday in May at Reedy Branch was really something. It was the biggest day that any church had, and people would come from miles and miles around to worship at Reedy Branch. It was the day when everybody dressed up in their spring outfits: the ladies in their fine dresses and bonnets, and the men in their new suits.'' It was ''a regular show,'' as she put it, ''but the people didn't come just to show off. They came to worship. The 'show' part came about because dark clothes were put aside and the beautiful, bright, light-colored ones were brought out. Many women dressed completely in white.'' The transition was somewhat like that which is now observed at Easter time. (And it was on one such first Sunday in May, (1917) that this writer's mother and father were wed in a high noon ceremony.)

Miss Martha remarked that the first **hat** she ever remembers having been worn by a woman (as opposed to **bonnet**) was ''worn by Mrs. Clarissa Langston, and it got a lot of attention because it was just beautiful.''

She further recalls that the hymn, ''All Hail the Power,'' was frequently sung, and that ''it sounded and resounded to the rafters—a grand sound indeed. Callie Moye Dail played the old pump organ. It sat out in front of the pulpit. Oh, and the singing! Why you never heard such singing! The Smiths, the Averetts, and the Braxtons. It was just wonderful.''

Then reminiscing more, her voice growing noticeably nostalgic, ''I remember how the men used to sit on one side of the church, and the women with small children on the other. We had wood heaters for the wintertime. It was such a good feeling to be there.'' Then, with a sigh, and almost a distinguishable tear in her voice, ''Reedy Branch is surely a very sacred old spot to me.''

As time passed, the church could not contain all those who sought entrance. The attendance grew until the ''house would be filled, and still many others sat or stood in the yard, listening through the open windows and doors.''

A Larger Building

Carrie Smith Cannon's history reveals much about the ''farsightedness'' of the members. ''In 1900 a few . . . met to make plans for a larger building. The building committee was composed of W. J. Braxton, J. A. Griffin, M. G. Moye, Charles McGlohon, W. H. Tripp, L. C. Fletcher, and C. H. Langston. This group of men pledged $25 each as a beginning. As always, some of the members discouraged the project, but the more optimistic took a brighter view and began work. The building which now stands (1950) was completed in 1901.

''M. G. Moye, W. J. Braxton, W. A. Vincent, Malachi Vincent, R. L. Worthington, Bryant Tripp, D. C. Davenport, Charles McGlohon, C. H. Langston, L. C. Fletcher, and . . . others gave lumber and materials. Will Nobles gave much time and labor in the building. He worked faithfully and willingly along with many others, until the church was completed and ready to be dedicated to the cause of Christ. The Rev. C. J. Harris preached the dedicatory sermon to an audience who were justly proud of its accomplishments.''

In 1925 Sunday school rooms were added to the building, and the church seemed complete with the added facilities which included a ''well-equipped nursery and larger auditorium.'' Then in 1949, the church underwent a complete renovation. A steeple and vestibule were added, and the entire

building repaired and painted, the floors refinished, memorial windows installed, and carpet laid on the aisles and chancel. Ably assisted by other members, Elwood Davenport chaired this project. In 1950 a Hammond Church Organ was purchased.

The late Mr. McCoy Tripp and Bertha, his wife, both diligent in all functions of the church, were most instrumental in securing funds for the organ.

The idea of establishing an institution at Middlesex for the care of orphan children originated in the mind of W. J. Braxton, a member of Reedy Branch church. He furnished labor and machinery to prepare the grounds for the buildings which have since sheltered many orphan children who would have been homeless.

Nehemiah Garris, a faithful soldier of the Cross served forty-two years as deacon. He was never absent at communion time unless providentially hindered. Others who have served on the board of deacons as far back as we have records are: R. L. Worthington, E. W. Smith, E. W. Braxton, A. B. Moye, C. H. Langston, C.C. Jackson, Philip Averette, Wilbur Worthington, George Jackson, McCoy Tripp, and Russell Little.

Those serving as trustees were Josephus Moye, L. C. Fletcher, J. A. Griffin, S. J. Vincent, E. M. Vincent, D. C. Davenport, W. A. Dail, J. F. Harrington, and Elwood Davenport.

Among the ruling elders we find the names of C. F. Little, S. J. Vincent, J. F. Harrington, and R. L. Worthington.

Outstanding among the clerks who have served is the name of Paul Harrington, who filled this place faithfully for many years. Others who have held this office include: E. W. Smith, W. A. Vincent, W. A. Dail Juanita Olive, Ruth W. Couch, Clarence Vincent, Burney Moye, Norman Coward, Viola Davenport, and E.C. Averette.

Those who have served as pastor include the Revs. Billie May, Jesse Heath, B.B. Albritton, T.N. Manning, James Craft, Henry Dixon, Slaughter, R. K. Hearne, T.N. Baker, Wiley Nobles, Lorenzo Nobles, Calis Little, Tom Barnhill, Fred McGlohon, G.C. Vause, R. I. Corbett, J.E. Sawyer, C.J. Harris, M.C. Prescott, L.R. Ennis, M.A. Woodard, J.C. Moye, R.C. Wiggs, Chester Pelt, J.P. Woodard, J.T. Forrest, D.W. Hansley, Henry Melvin, Charles Sapp, and Willis Wilson.

Reedy Branch has given to the ministry the following: the Revs. W.B. Nobles, Calis Little, Henry Dixon, John Wiley Nobles, C.B. Jones, W.A. Dail, W. H. Laughinghouse, James Craft, and Arch Tyson.

R. L. Worthington served as treasurer for thirty-seven years. The present treasurer is James A. Little, who keeps most accurate records.

The auxiliaries of the church are doing superb work, and the Sunday school is growing in members and interest. The Clarissa Langston Love Fund is under the charge of Rebecca Davenport, a granddaughter of Clarissa Langston, who was active in establishing this work several years ago. Through this fund (which Mrs. Davenport has chaired for over 25 years), many needy families have been assisted in many ways.

Improvements and Notes of Interest

The parsonage was built during the spring and summer of 1952; and during 1952, the Rev. Henry Melvin, the first full-time pastor of the church, moved into the parsonage.

A new educational annex was added to the church in 1955, at a cost of $15,000. Then, in 1959, the interior of the church was remodeled, directed largely by Mr. Melvin who presented original ideas and designs. The pews of the old church were spared and were incorporated in the remodeling job, being used as paneling for the choir loft and chancel railing. Central heating and air conditioning were installed, and new furniture was added to the sanctuary. A carport was added to the parsonage. Mr. Melvin resigned his pastorate and left the church in 1961. Called in his place was the Rev. Charles Sapp. Mr. Sapp served until 1963.

The Willis Wilson Administration

The Rev. Willis W. Wilson answered a call to pastor the church in October, 1963. A diligent worker, he immediately set about to lead the church onward and upward. In 1965, an addition to the educational building was built and the sanctuary was brick veneered. Mr. Wilson was in charge of this work, buying all the materials and actually doing much of the work himself. A colonial front (the present design) was constructed, and the church took on the impressive appearance it holds today.

In 1965, "Uncle Doc" Worthington (R. L.) succumbed, leaving many fine memories. A magnanimous gentlemen, he is reported to have "paid the bills many times out of his own pockets when there was no money in the church treasury."

F. McCoy Tripp, the first chairman of the official board, served faithfully in that capacity for 12 years. Sometime after Mr. Wilson's coming, Mr. Tripp was made honorary chairman for life. Mr. Tripp died August 17, 1971.

In 1964, chimes were given to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Buck and Mrs. Mary Lou Whitfield. And also in 1964, a piano was given by the family and friends of Roger Stox. A subsequent gift of another piano was given by Mary Lou Hooks in memory of her husband, Johnny.

In 1966, a heating system was given the parsonage by Mrs. Marvin Buck, and the whole house air-conditioned by Mr. and Mrs. Elwood (E.C.) Davenport.

In 1970, a double garage was added to the parsonage. In 1976, the church added a 100 by 60 foot recreational building containing kitchen and bathroom facilities, as well as accommodations for shuffleboard, basketball, ping-pong, volley

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Family Devotions

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Scripture Reading—Genesis 21:16

THE MEANING OF DEATH

The story is told by William H. Ridgeway that when a boy, he with other boys would go berrying, and, having filled their baskets, would wait beside the railroad track, as the sun was dipping toward the west, and have the train "run over them." But the train didn't run over them at all. It was only the shadow that enveloped them. There they set, knowing they were in no danger but keyed up to the highest pitch in anticipation of the oncoming of the thundering locomotive and the long passenger cars. As it swept by them, they were in the shadow for just a few split seconds, and then the shadow was gone. I know of no better illustrations of the meaning of death to the Christian.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Is your life like a shadow? Are you living in the dimness of God's light? Are you afraid of death? Don't be! He has gone to prepare a place for us. Why not yield yourself to Him this Easter day!

MONDAY, MARCH 27

Scripture Reading—Daniel 3:17

RICKENBACKER'S RESCUE

Captain Edward V. Rickenbacker, foremost American airman in World War I, has recently returned from his harrowing experiences in the South Pacific. His story of 21 days afloat in the sea is most remarkable.

He, with seven others left Hawaii by airplane for a certain island, but when the time had elapsed for them to arrive, there was no land in sight. Their compass had failed them and their radio was not working properly. They were lost! And their gas was about exhausted.

They finally exhausted their gas and had to land on the water. They were so eager to get away from the airplane before it sank that they failed to take water and rations. They only had four scrawny oranges between them.

They had three rubber boats. Three men were put in the first one, three in the second (including Captain Rickenbacker), and two in the third. They tied the boats together.

Private Bartek in Captain Rickenbacker's boat had a Bible in the pocket of his jumper and the second day out prayer meetings were organized in the evening and morning and the men took turns reading passages from the Bible.

Captain Rickenbacker said: "I know things about these men's lives that probably no other living soul knows; any sins of commission or ommission were confessed."

Again he said: "Frankly and humbly we prayed for deliverance. After the oranges were gone, there showed up a terrific lot of pangs of hunger and we prayed for food."

He continued: "If it weren't for the fact that I had seven witnesses, I wouldn't dare tell this story because it seems so fantastic. Within a hour after prayer meeting, a sea gull came and landed on my head and you can imagine my nervousness in trying to turn around and get him; which I did. We wrung his head and feathered him and carved up his carcass and distributed it, and used his innards for bait."

With this bait they succeeded in catching two fish. They ran into rain storms and caught the water with their shirts, socks, and handkerchiefs; and then wrung it out. For several days this meant two sips of water per man each day! During the last days their supply of water increased.

On the 13th day one man died and had to be buried at sea.

On the 17th day they saw an airplane—more on the 18th and 19th days. But the planes did not discover them.

On the 20th day they cut the boats apart and Captain Cherry was found in his boat alone, three of the men landed on an uninhabited island and were there a day and a half before being rescued.

On the 21st day American planes found and rescued Captain Rickenbacker and the men in his boat.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it great to be found? Remember the story of the lost sheep, when Jesus searched until He found the lost one.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

Scripture Reading—Acts 22:14

YOU CAN TRUST GOD
WITH YOUR BUSINESS

Queen Elizabeth asked a rich English merchant to go on a mission for the crown. The merchant remonstrated, saying that such a long absence would be fatal to his business. "You take care of my business," replied the Queen, "and I will take care of yours." When he returned, he found that through the patronage and care of the Queen, his business had increased in volume and he was richer than when he left. So every businessman can afford to place Christ's interests first, for the promise is clear and unmistakable. Do Christ's will, and He will look after your welfare.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We can have all the riches we want, if we but trust God. He will supply our needs.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

Scripture Reading—1 John 2:17

A LASTING MONUMENT

There were two sons in the Taylor

family in England. The older one set out to make a name for the family and turned his attention toward Parliament and prestige. But Hudson Taylor, the younger, chose to give his life to Christ, so he turned his face toward China and obscurity. Hudson Taylor is known and honored on every continent as a faithful missionary and as the founder of the China Inland Mission. But when you look in the encyclopedia to see what the other son had done, you find these words, "The brother of Hudson Taylor." Men may have their names inscribed on marble monuments for feats of fame; some day these monuments will fall in fragments. "But he that doeth the will of God abideth forever" (1 John 2:17).

PRAYER THOUGHT

The things man does here on earth will not be measured in Heaven. God has other ways of rewarding His servants.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 4:10

ENJOYING HER WORRIES?

A woman was once being called upon by a victorious Christian, who, after listening to her tale of woe, told her of the way to victory and joy through Christ Jesus. The poor woman listened intently and, when her visitor had finished, looked up with a frightened face and said, "Oh, but I don't want to ever come to the place where I can't worry!" The poor soul seemed to feel a great loss would come to her if she could not worry. She had spent so much of her time in this way, she would be lonely if she stopped and let the Lord carry her and her burdens.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are supposed to put our trust in God. He will help us with our cares and troubles; therefore worry will get us nowhere.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

Scripture Reading—Matthew 12:32

HOW ONE MAN LOST HIS CHANCE

A young man, in the very flower of his days, once told the following story, in answer to a question as to why he was not spending his life for God and others.

"I was once," he said, "as you are, a Christian worker, and service for God was a great delight. For many years I gave of my best, and was happy in giving, until one day God called me to launch out in the deep—to forsake all and follow Him fully. But," he continued slowly, "I thought of my wife and two children, of my comfortable home, of my paying business, of all I valued in the homeland, and I looked up to God, and said 'No.' That's three years ago," he said, "and now—"

"Now," I echoed quickly, "what?"

"Oh," he replied with a mirthless laugh, "what's the good of speaking about these things? I don't know why you should have asked me that question; I must go." And he arose and reached out for his hat.

"But," I answered breathlessly, laying my hand upon his arm, "you care still, don't you?"

For a moment he lifted his dark eyes to mine, and never shall I forget his look of remorse. "Care!" he repeated hoarsely; "what's the good of caring now? I'm so involved in business with worldly men that I hardly dare call my soul my own. Both my wife and I have backslidden, and never even go to church; and as for helping others—look, I've lost my chance."

PRAYER THOUGHT

How often we seem so close to God but are actually lost! He cares for us, but we must commit ourselves to Him.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

Scripture Reading—Matthew 13:57

HONORING A NAME

The story is told of a soldier in the army of Alexander the Great, who was brought before the great world—conqueror for court martial. When the emperor had listened to the charges and the evidence, he turned to the soldier facing condemnation, and said.

"What is your name?"

"Alexander!" was the reply.

Again the emperor questioned, "What is your name?"

And the second time the soldier answered, "Alexander!"

With a cry of rage, the emperor roared, "I say, what is your name?"

And when the soldier answered for the third time, "Alexander!" the great general angrily replied, "You say your name is Alexander? You are found guilty of your crime as charged, and now you must pay the penalty. Either change your conduct or change your name! for no man can bear the name of Alexander, my name, and do the things that you have done."

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we become a Christian, we must change to bear the name of Jesus. What a wonderful feeling to follow Him!

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

NEWS NOTES

Bethany Church Revival in Progress

Revival services are in progress at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, and will continue through Friday night, March 24.

The Rev. Clyde Cox is the visiting evangelist. The services begin at 7:30 each evening.

The Rev. Bobby Taylor, pastor invites everyone at attend the remaining services.

Sunrise Service

On March 26, at 6 a. m. , Easter Sunday morning, Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church and Bethany Free Will Baptist Church will join together at the Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Ayden, N. C. to worship together in a Sunrise Service commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. A cordial invitation is extended to anyone wishing to join in this worship service.

NEWS & NOTES

Revival Services
Wooten's Chapel Church

Revival services are scheduled for April 3-8 at Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, located on SR 2727, Route 3, Raleigh. The Rev. Arnold Price will be the evangelist. Special music will be featured each evening. A nursery will be provided. Each service will be preceded by prayer sessions and services will begin at 7:30 p. m. A very cordial welcome is extended to everyone to come and worship during these services.

Mt. Tabor Church
Announces Youth Revival

The Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church, near Creswell, announces its youth revival, March 29-31. with the Rev. Bobby Brown of Cove City as the guest evangelist. Services will begin at 7 p. m. with special music each night. Everyone is cordially invited to attend these services.

Gospel Sing and Revival
Otter's Creek Church

Gospel singing will be held at Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Macclesfield, on Saturday night, March 25. The featured singers will be "The Young Christians" of Snow Hill. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m.

Also revival services will be held at the Otter's Creek church on April 3 through April 8 with guest speaker, the Rev. Ralph Aycock, a former pastor of Kenly. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Johnny Taylor. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Central Conference WA Convention
First Church, Greenville

The Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, on March 29. Mrs. Francis Carraway is the district president. The theme is "Walking Together With the Master." The theme Scripture is "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). Registration will begin at 9:30 a. m. The scheduled program is as follows:

Morning Session

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "All the Way My Saviour Leads Me"
—Devotion, Mrs. Mary Brewer
10:00—Welcome, Mrs. Bill Taylor
—Response, Mrs. Annabelle Morris
10:15—Greetings, President
—Recognition Time
—Business Period
10:35—Mission, Miss Leah McGlohon
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
—(Mission Money and Pennies for Cragmont)
11:00—Children's Home, Mrs. Jane Adams
—Love Offering
—Hymn, "I Walk With the King"
11:15—Free Will Baptist Press, Mrs. Lib Hill
11:25—Special Music, Mr. Bryant Hines
—Introduction of Speaker, Mrs. Ruth Taylor
11:30—Morning Message, the Rev. Davie Brinson
12:00—Benediction
Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:00—Hymn, "Footsteps of Jesus"
—Prayer
1:05—Youth Chairman, Mrs. Dot Dail
—Presentation of Declamation Winner
—Presentation of Essay Winner
1:25—Study Course Chairman, Mrs. Albert Proctor
1:35—Cragmont, the Rev. Douglas Skinner
1:45—News From College
1:55—Anna Phillips Loan Fund, Mrs. Bertha Harris
2:05—Life Membership Award, Mrs. Jane Adams
2:15—Business Period
3:00—Benediction

Music Director, Miss Leah McGlohon
Organist, Mrs. Ruth Taylor

Yelverton Grove Church
Announces Revival

Spring revival will begin Monday night, March 27 and continue through Friday night, March 31, at the Yelverton Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Smithfield. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. The evangelist will be the Rev. Kemery Ard, pastor of the Powhatan church of Clayton. He will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. C. M. Coats. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Union Chapel Church
Announces Revival

Revival services will begin on March 27 and will continue through March 31 at Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Plymouth. The Rev. Robert May of Ahoskie will be the guest speaker. The pastor, the Rev. Stanley Buck, and members invite all to attend these services. Special music will be provided by different choirs and the Union Chapel quartet.

Calvary Church
Announces Revival

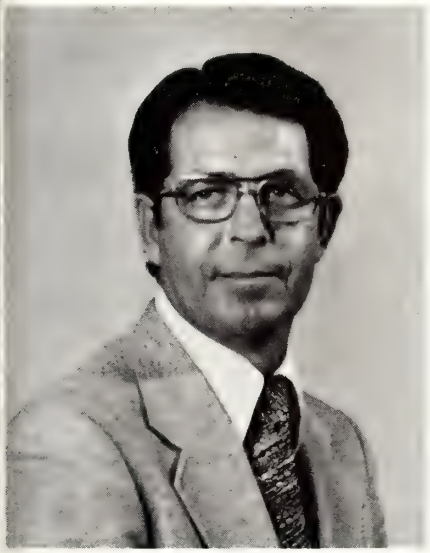
Revival services will be held at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, beginning March 19, 1978, and will continue through March 24. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m., with prayer rooms at 7:10 p. m., and special singing each

night. Harold Herring, director of development at Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker.

The pastor, the Rev. Dewey C. Boling, and members invite all to attend these services.

There will be a social hour Friday night after services, as everyone is invited to stay for this fellowship.

Stoney Church Announces Revival



The Rev. Norman Ard

Revival services will be held at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Patetown Road, Goldsboro, March 27-31, with services beginning at 7:30 each night.

Evangelist for the revival will be the Rev. Norman Ard, pastor of Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill.

This will be a week of good preaching and singing. Everyone in the Goldsboro area and from other areas, is cordially invited. The pastor is the Rev. C. F. Bowen.

Valentine Banquet Sponsored by YFA

On February 11, the Marsh Swamp YFA near Sims, sponsored a Valentine Banquet in the annex of the church. The meal was served by the YFA members in the basement of the annex. It was decorated with red and white streamers, valentine motifs, candles, and flowers.

After the meal, everyone was invited upstairs by Nancy Boykin, YFA president, where door prizes were given away and entertainment consisting of Mr. Frank Rice playing the autoharp and songs by other church groups. The evening was enjoyed by all attending.

Mrs. Ben Strother, chairman, and Mrs. Brenda Norville are youth leaders.

New Fellowship Building At Oak Grove Church

The Rev. Don Kivett, pastor, and the members of Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Route 3, Elm City, would like to share with fellow Free Will Baptist churches the blessings they have received through Christ for the past year. God has blessed with souls and progress.

The Rev. Don Kivett moved to the church as pastor on March 8, 1977. Through his ministry this past year, they have had an increase of 34 members; 24 were by baptism and 10 by letter.

In the past year, they have built a fellowship building. The ground breaking was held on the first Sunday in April, 1977. The first meeting was held inside the building on November 13, 1977. This building has proven to be a great blessing of fellowship among the members and visitors.

They have also completed a project of paving the driveway to the parsonage and have paved the complete parking lot.



Fellowship Building at Oak Grove Church

They are in the process of putting up a steeple on the church. They know that with faith and God's help, this will be completed before the year 1978 ends.

First Church, Rocky Mount Announces Spring Revival

Revival services will begin at the First Free Will Baptist Church, 406 Cokey Road, Rocky Mount, on March 27 and will continue through March 31. The services will begin each evening at 7:30. The Rev. Clyde Cox from the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will be the guest evangelist. Special music will be featured nightly.

The pastor, the Rev. Larry Barbour, and church members extend to everyone a cordial invitation to attend.

Revival Planned at Snow Hill Church

The Snow Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Mount Olive, announces its spring revival with the Rev. Jerry English, as the guest speaker. The Rev. English is the pastor of Antioch church of New Bern. Services will begin on March 27 continuing through April 1, at 7:30 each night. There will be special singing each night by singers from other churches, along with the local choir. On the last night of the revival, the Four in Christ, a quartet from Rev. English's church, will be rendering the special singing for that service.

The pastor, the Rev. John A. Owens, and members of the church cordially invite everyone to attend these services.

Core Creek Church Has Revival

The Rev. Calvin Heath, a member of Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church and pastor of the Dublin Grove church near Aurora, will conduct a three-day revival in the Core Creek church beginning March 22 through March 24. These services will begin at 7:30 each evening. There will be special music each night. Everyone is welcome to come and be a part of these services. The Rev. Melvin K. Everington is the minister of the Core Creek church.

A Christian Home for Boys and Girls"

free will baptist children's home



MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

"WHAT ABOUT ME?"

"What about me?" I was deserted, lonely, often hungry. My parents left me to care for myself and my brothers and sisters. I've become hard and cynical. I lash out at everybody who tries to come near me. My grades are poor, because I've missed so much school. I've grown to hate everybody and everything.

What did I do to deserve parents like mine who love drinking and partying more than staying home with me and my brothers and sisters. Why do they beat us, we haven't done anything so wrong. I just want to be left alone. I don't want to go to no Children's Home, just leave me alone; you can make me go, but I won't stay."

These unconnected and yet very connected series of statements characterize the child of desperation known to every child care worker today. Life has dealt them a dirty deal.

These youngsters come to children's homes like ours at Middlesex. Our Home has no orphans. The absence of war, modern medicine and other factors have reduced the number of orphans. Half-orphans are often able to stay with parents who love them and care for them with the help of Social Security, V.A. benefits and other community aid. But not so for the child described in our opening paragraph. A court order, intervention by local citizens, or parents who become aware they desperately need help with their children bring the child to the Children's Home.

Frightened, unsettled, often quite hostile, he begins his stay. He doesn't want to be at the Home. He is angry at his parents for allowing him to be placed at the Home. He unleashes his anger on the staff and children in the Home—anger which he wishes to direct at his parents.

His violent outbursts and tantrums continue day after day. Cottage children are harassed, all too often several runaways occur. Often his behavior is so threatening that it must be concluded that group care is not the answer for him. So, it's off to court and probation, more infractions and court again. Finally training school or a treatment program seem the only answer. Too often prison follows.

There are thousands of these children in North Carolina who need care. They are not criminals but they do need more help than most Children's Homes are able to give, including our own. There are no programs for them short of training school. There is an answer, however. Children's Homes can meet the needs of many of these children, but in order to do so they must change. "The field of residential child care is entering a period of change that goes to the very core of its existence," said Dr. James K. Whittaker at the 1977 National Association of Homes for Children Conference. Dr. Whittaker called for more diversified services to meet the needs of many different children rather than the mild mannered little dumplings who seem never to have problems. "We need an adequate theory for changing children's behavior and we needed it yesterday. Just as the children entering residential programs have changed, so has our knowledge of how to best help them," continued Dr. Whittaker.

Our Children's Home can help these unfortunate children, but some change must come about. More qualified staff, which we will discuss later, is one great need. Also, program changes must be forthcoming. There must be more structure in the program which calls for periods of supervised interaction through work programs, craft shops, supervised sports activities and regular group and individual counseling. Each child will have to be dealt with as an individual. If he as an individual is disruptive in normal group care situations, then special cottages that offer more security against runaways and bodily harm must be built. Some children may even need to be placed in foster homes so that a one to one relationship can be achieved.

Very little of the above is descriptive of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. As a result our numbers dwindle. However, all of the above could be possible with our Home. Couples in the cottages, additional recreation programs, and structuring of free time are programs already in progress. There remains the need of funds for vocational programs craft shops, and especially equipped cottages for the care of the more difficult child as well as the staff to manage the program.

We have the building we need, we can acquire the staff, but the price tag would be higher for these expanded programs. The chief obstacle that hinders us as Free Will Baptists from using our total capacity at the Children's Home is the lack of funds to administer these programs. We have a choice to make. We can either open our arms to all children who need care and provide the funding necessary or we must turn away the more troubled child and take only those who readily adapt to group care as we now offer it. If we choose the latter option, there will still be children to care for. The large numbers we've been accustomed to, 72-75, will probably dwindle to 50-55. Whatever our choice, we must do our best.

Our next installment will deal with the staff needed for expanded programs.

The Revision Committee on the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet April 3, at St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Sampson County, near Newton Grove, at 10 a. m.

Bill Futch, Secretary

CRAGMONT

SUMMER WORKERS NEEDED

In order for the summer conferences to be held at Cragmont this year, we need to have some workers. We are looking for Christian males and females at least 15 years of age. The rate of pay may not be the best, but the "benefits" are great! If interested please contact the Rev. Douglas Skinner before the end of April. Address: 2517 Trull Street, Wilson, N. C. 27893. Telephone: (919) 243-2729.

CRAGMONT NEWS

As the warm weather fast approaches, our minds are turned more frequently toward summer and camp time at Cragmont! Now is the ideal time to register for one of the conferences to be held at Cragmont this summer. The youth have five different opportunities to attend, while a separate week is held for the women and a week for the ministers. A camp schedule will be printed in **The Free Will Baptist** in just a few weeks.

Many of you have been asking when will construction on the new Main Building at Cragmont begin. If the Lord is willing, construction should begin in **just** a few weeks. We are very grateful for all the financial support we have received for our new building project. However, the need will be greater once we actually begin building. Don't forget us in your prayers especially. We pray that the Lord will impress you to give an extra amount as we begin our construction.

Cragmont will officially open for the summer on May 15, 1978. I am getting very anxious to get back in the mountains and to begin work. I am looking forward to another great summer in the Lord. If any church groups are planning to have a retreat and have not yet contacted me, please do so quickly for there are only a couple of weekends left open.

Continue to remember Cragmont in your prayers. May God bless you.

In His Service,
Rev. Douglas Skinner
Manager, Promotional Secretary

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: Please explain, "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matthew 24:240.

Answer: False shepherds and false Christs are such as many of the Pharisees were when Christ was on earth. Jesus said of these: "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel" (Matthew 23:23, 24).

Anyone is an antichrist who is against Christ and any who pose as Christ or in a false way make claims that suggest that he possesses characteristics belonging to Christ only. And there have been many through the ages that did this. John writes, "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time" (1 John 2:18); "And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is the world" (1 John 4:3); "For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist" (2 John 7).

"The word 'Anti-Christ' is mentioned in 1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3; 1 John 7. It occurs nowhere else in the Bible. It is commonly identified with the Man of Sin, 2 Thessalonians 2, and the Beast of Revelation 13. But the Bible itself does not make the identification. The language implies that John's readers had been taught to expect an antichrist in connection with the closing days of the Christian Era, 18. However, John applies the word, not to One Person, but to the whole group of anti-Christian Teachers, 2:18; 4:3. The New Testament idea seems to be that the Spirit of Antichrist would arise in Christendom, manifesting itself in many ways, both within the Church and without, finally culminating in One Person, or an Institution, or Both."—**Halley's Bible Handbook**, page 616.

Churches and Ministers Available

Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Aurora, will be in need of a pastor beginning in July. They request services on first, second, third, and fourth Sunday mornings. For further information contact Mildred G. Brothers, Route 1, Box 365, Aurora, North Carolina 27806.

The Rev. Jimmy Webster states that he is available for full-time or part-time pastoral services. He has worked in the Eastern Conference for the last six years. He may be contacted by writing Route 1, Box 224-A, Pinetown, North Carolina 27865; or calling 943-3987.

The Rev. Wilson W. Parker announces that he is available for full-time pastoral work. He may be contacted by writing the Rev. Wilson W. Parker, 209 Whitley Drive, Smithfield, North Carolina, or by phoning 934-7409.

Coming Events. . .

March 26—Easter Sunday

March 27—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, and Wilson

April—Home Missions and Church Extension Month

April 1—Daily Vacation Bible School Workshop, Ayden

April 3—Revision Committee on the Statement of Faith and Disciple will meet at St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Sampson County, 10 a. m.

April 4—Ordaining Council of the Central Conference meets at the Free Will Baptist Press, 10 a. m.

LIFE IN THE FELLOWSHIP

Lesson Text: Acts 4:32-35; 5:1-11
Memory Verse: Acts 4:33

I. INTRODUCTION

Ever since Eden, mankind has been engaged in a search for the ideal society. The dwellers in Shinar apparently felt that they had achieved this; but God felt otherwise, and dispersed them with the confusion of tongues (Genesis 11:4-8).

Sociologists, political theorists, authors, and religious thinkers have wrestled more recently with the same objective: to design a workable, ideal culture where people can dwell together in a peaceful, trouble-free life. Some have designed their societies as monarchies, some as democracies, and others have devised rigid legalistic dictatorships. One would have the organization under a system of religious control; another seeks a technologically perfected and biologically advanced people in whom, at least theoretically, no problem incapable of being solved could exist.

We have only to look about us in our world to realize that the fondest dreams of men for such a society are not to be found in human scheme. What a great amount of time and effort might be spared us all: God has done our planning for us. He has, in fact, designed a society into which all mankind may be perfectly integrated—the church of His Son, Jesus Christ. Today's lesson will glance at the life in this fellowship and at an event that threatened to disrupt it.

Last week's lesson dealt with the trial of Peter and John before the Sanhedrin. This was brought about as a result of the miraculous healing of a lame man in the temple and the subsequent sermon Peter preached, in which he affirmed that the man had been healed by the power of the resurrected Christ. Unable to deny the miracle and unwilling to risk discrediting themselves before the people, who glorified God because of the healing, the members of the Sanhedrin could do nothing more than to order the disciples to stop preaching this doctrine and to threaten punishment if they disobeyed.

Being released, the apostles returned to the fellowship of the believers and reported all that had taken place. Following a time of prayer, in which the disciples prayed for courage to preach the gospel, God responded by sending His Holy Sprit unto them, "and they spake the word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:23-31).

This brings us to Luke's description of the body of believers in the Early Church, which is the first section of the Scripture for this lesson.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In the lesson last Sunday, we saw the church persecuted. In the lesson today, we see the church afflicted with the first perversion or wrongful use of its powers and prestige. We should study these lessons to see how the church should deal with these things today.

B. Our lesson opens with the Early Church in great condition. They were in praying group. They were filled with the Holy Spirit. They were bold in their witness for the Lord. Many were being saved. Furthermore, they loved each other so much that they sold their goods and all lived from a common treasury.

C. The commmon treasury of the Early Church cannot be used to defend communism as we know it today. This was in the church, among God's people. Communism today is nationwide, among saved and unsaved alike. The bringing of their goods to a common treasury was voluntary in the church; it is never voluntary in the communist nations.

D. Ananias and Sapphira were guilty of at least two sins. They were guilty of envy. There can be no doubt that they envied Barnabas. They were guilty of the love of money. Do these same two sins bother the church today?

E. The church did not condemn Ananias and his wife; they did not have to—God passed the judgment and executed it. God will protect His church today if we will trust Him to do so.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Basically, human utopian schemes fail because they are human and seldom take God into account. The problem of universal sin leads to their ultimate downfall. You cannot have a perfect society without perfect men.

B. Jesus' prayer in John 17 reveals His concern for unity among His followers. Without that unity and loving concern that flows from it, the lost world will not believe the claims of Jesus or our claims to be His disciples.

C. Christian unity is founded on a common agreement about the person and claims of Jesus and unlimited devotion to His teachings. Unity does not require nor is it based on total agreement on every issue and practice.

D. We repeat their sin anytime we seek praise and credit for something that we are really unwilling to do. Pride and selfishness are the roots of such action today.

E. The highest Christian motive for any action is true love for God and His ways. Giving should especially be prompted by unselfish mercy, love and

(Continued on Page 13)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For April 2



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

My testimony starts around 1969. I decided on my own to farm and move my family back to my hometown. I never asked the Lord for any help. I was exposed to church all my life and had gone to Sunday school and church as long as my folks had control over me. I do thank the Lord today for my having married a Christian wife. Because of her, I am where I am today.

After a complete failure in farming for four years straight, I felt it was best that I find a job. In February, 1975, after trying to make up my mind, my wife said, "Let's pray about it." So for the first time we prayed together; she prayed and I listened. She asked the Lord to open the right doors that we might do His will. Within two weeks, I had a job with a large company in eastern North Carolina.

By traveling the counties in the east and dealing with customers who wanted favors from me and my company, I was always in a situation where everywhere I went there was someone who wanted a favor. There was usually a supper for me with drinking and other sinful vices. I became involved, but I didn't get hooked on alcohol, but I drank my share and smoked. This went on for about 14 months. One night when I was in a Wrightsville Beach motel, I began reading a Bible which had been placed in the room by the Gideons. I started in the Book of Revelation. That night my wife called to ask how I was doing. I told her she wouldn't believe what I was doing. Then I told her I was reading the Bible. That very night I got on my knees and asked the Lord to accept me, a sinner, and deliver me. I was happy.

I had been a member of a church since I was 12 years old, but I had never asked the Lord to save me. He did. I changed my job, became active in church, joined the Gideons International; and I am now working for the Lord 100 percent. The Lord delivered me from drinking, smoking, and cursing. I am active in the church. I praise the Lord every chance I get and witness to everyone I can about what the Lord means to me.

Name Withheld

Feature

(Continued from Page 5)

ball, and other sports activities. The new addition cost over $80,000.

The church property is valued well in excess of $200,000.

The latest addition to the church is a new Wurlitzer Concert Model 4700 organ, which was formally dedicated on February 12, 1978. The organ was given the church by W. M. ("Booger") Scales Jr., in honor of his wife, Virginia Gaylord Scales. During this dedicatory service, Tommy Manning, organist, at the request of Mr. Scales, played four variations of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" (an original arrangement).

There is no better way to sum up the glorious past of Reedy Branch or to project its grand future than to use the words of Carrie Smith Cannon in her 1950 history:

"In the minds and hearts of many, the very ground on which the church stands has been hallowed by memories of those who have labored, loved, and prayed that we may have the wonderful heritage which is ours today. In passing they threw the torch to us. Will we hold it high so that its light may shine in the hearts and lives of those who come our way?

"The record of Reedy Branch has been made by its members. Although whatever it holds of success or failure cannot be changed, the future is ours and another challenging opportunity awaits us to press forward toward the goal of Christ Jesus, and catch a broader vision of the beauty and meaning of worshiping together and working together to build God's kingdom on earth."

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page 12)

concern for others. Motives do matter because God always looks beyond the hands to the heart.

F. Some years ago a great flood swept down a valley in West Virginia, destroying much property and taking many lives. Hardly had the flood waters receded when the survivors of the flood found themselves flooded once again. This time they were flooded with clothing supplied by gracious-hearted people from many parts of the country.

This outpouring of generosity helped both the givers and the receivers. It was a two-way blessing.

—Selected

ATTENTION

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet April 4 at the Free Will Baptist Press at 10 a. m.

All persons having business with this Council, please attend this meeting.

MOC

OF

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GIFTS TO HUNT ENDOWMENT



Senator Harold Hardison, right, of Deep Run, presented checks totaling $500 from Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church to College President, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, left, and James B. Hunt Sr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The money was a gift to the James B. and Elsie Brame Hunt Endowment Fund bringing the total in contributions to over $5,000

Senator Hardison is a current Mount Olive College Trustee and a member of Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church.

WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?

Any person who is academically and personally qualified for admission to Mount Olive College will not be denied acceptance for financial reasons.

Anyone desiring a college education but feeling limited financially should consider the following questions.

If a student answers "yes" to one or more of these questions, he or she should apply for financial aid at Mount Olive College.

—Will there be more than one member of the family in college?

—Are one or both parents deceased?

—Are one or both parents disabled?

—Has the family's principle wage earner been unemployed for as long as 10 weeks?

—Has the family incurred high uninsured medical expenses recently?

—Are the parents retired or near retirement age?

—Are the parents separated or divorced?

—Does the family rent the home?

—Does the student plan to attend summer school?

—If there is one dependent child in the family, is the parent's annual income less than $14,000?

—If there are two dependent children in the family, is the parent's annual income less than $18,000?

—If there are three dependent children in the family, is the parent's annual income less than $20,000?

Are there more than four dependent children in the family?

These questions are designed to provide students and their families with a guide in deciding whether or not to apply for financial aid at Mount Olive College.

In order to determine how to best meet the needs of the individual student we recommend that each student complete the American College Testing (ACT) Service Need Analysis Form. Once this form is received in our office each student is encouraged to have an individual conference with the Financial Aid Director to work out their particular financial aid package.

ANNUAL ALUMNI MEETING AND BANQUET SET APRIL 1

The annual Mount Olive College Alumni meeting and banquet will be held on Saturday, April 1, on the downtown campus.

Registration begins at 5:30 p. m. For those interested in visiting the new campus on Highway 117, the buildings will be opened from 4 p. m. to 6 p. m.

The annual meeting and banquet will begin at 6:30 p. m. and include special recognition for the Classes of 1958 and 1968 on their 20th and 10th anniversaries and presentation of the Alumni of the Year Award.

Also on the program is entertainment by the Mount Olive Singers and an update on the four-year status of Mount Olive College by President, W. Burkette Raper.

Immediately following the banquet, a reception will be held in honor of the

Classes of 1958 and 1968 sponsored by the Student Government Association. All alumni are invited to attend.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Marla Ard

Marla Ard from Pink Hill is Mount Olive College Student of the Week.

At 19, Marla is a sophomore at Mount Olive College majoring in piano.

"I guess I was born with the desire to play music, and piano is my favorite instrument. I love to play by ear." Marla said.

While attending Mount Olive, Marla has been director of the children's music at the United Methodist church in Mount Olive.

"Someday I want to teach some form of musical skill," she added.

Marla has also been a cheerleader for the Trojan teams for two years.

She is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Norman Ard of Pink Hill where her father is pastor of Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

RETREAT PLANNED AT EAGLE'S NEST

A one day retreat on "The Mission of the Church" is set for Saturday, April 1, at Eagles Nest Conference Center near Mount Olive. Ministers and laymen are invited to attend.

Registration is $5 which includes lunch. Advance reservations should be made by calling Frank Harrison at 658-2502 (office) or 658-9363 (home).

The Retreat will be led by the Rev. David Comer, minister of Grace Baptist Church in Statesville.

A fellowship session begins at 9:30 a. m. with the program starting promptly at 10 a. m.

The morning session will address the question of Christian Discipleship taken from the Book of Acts. The afternoon session will cover ways in which Christians can fulfill their Christian commitment in the world today. All participants are asked to read the book **Company Of The Committed**, by Dr. Elton Trueblood.

Mr. Comer has studied at the Church of Our Savior, Washington, D. C. as well as attended retreats there. He is also a member of Yokefellow International.

HIGH SCHOOL DAY APRIL 8

The annual Spring High School Day is set for Saturday, April 8 beginning with registration at 10 a. m. in the Henderson building.

The day's program includes campus tours, visiting time with faculty and students and a special meeting for seniors and parents providing detailed information on career planning and financial aid.

The New Creations will present a special program of music at 11 a. m. in Rodgers Chapel followed by lunch at 12 noon in the College auditorium with entertainment by the Mount Olive Singers.

Auditions for students interested in being a part of the College ensembles will be held at 1:30 p. m.

EASTER

by Hazel Casey

What does Easter really mean to me?
My Saviour gave His life for me, you see.
He bore the heavy Cross, and climbed Golgotha's hill
That you and I could be saved from our sins, and still
Have eternal life.

The nails were driven into each of His hands
Oh how they hurt, yet my Saviour was in command.
The crown of thorns pierced His head
He did not have to die, but instead
He chose to die for all mankind everywhere
That the plan of salvation would be complete, and we could be aware
Of His great love for all the world.

The love He expressed upon that Cross
Has not been in vain, nor is it a loss,
For He died for me, on that dark, dark day
And through Him, my sins are all washed away!!!!!!

WATCH FOR:

IS RELIGION REALLY NECESSARY?

Warning to Parents*
Keep Out of Reach of Teenagers

***Unless you are prepared to answer pertinent questions—in a common sense language—concerning church doctrine.**

"PRECIOUS ARE HIS PROMISES"

DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1978

REGISTRATION: 9:30 A.M.

Locations:

Free Will Baptist Church
First Baptist Church

East Third Street
Ayden, North Carolina

ALL VBS LEADERS, TEACHERS, WORKERS, AND INTERESTED GROUPS ARE URGED TO ATTEND!

"In hope of eternal life, which God that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (Titus 1:2).

F857w

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MARCH 29, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA





"Anyone can carry his burden, however hard, until nightfall. Anyone can do his work, however hard, for one day."

Cover Photo by John Taylor

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Editorial . . .

TO LIVE FOR TODAY

Hardly a person would have to ask, "Who is Robert Louis Stevenson?" For most of us, he epitomizes childhood fantasy. His stories of adventure and romantic fiction have thrilled both young and old. He was one of the few writers to achieve popularity with youth *and* adults.

Perhaps the most famous among Stevenson's works are *Treasure Island* (a book of high adventure, published in 1883) and *A Child's Garden of Verses* (a collection of poems geared toward the young, published in 1885). Running a close third is *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (a story in which the physical change in a man symbolizes *moral change*, published in 1886).

Stevenson believed in pure living and personally subscribed to it, according to biographers. Believing in the essential wholesomeness of life "as an exciting adventure," Stevenson, in many of his essays, shows how outward appearance is often misleading. His belief that the *inner spirit* is the most important quality in human life is evident throughout his writings.

Stevenson had many admirers, one of whom was the notable Dale Carnegie (1888-1955), pioneer in public speaking and personality development. Carnegie incorporated much of Stevenson's philosophy into his own, though indirectly.

"Believe that you will succeed, and you will," said Carnegie. And, expanding a well-known truth, he insisted, "Learn to love, respect, and enjoy other people."

His love and respect for, and enjoyment of other people surfaced most profoundly some thirty-five years ago during a guest appearance at a banquet for businessmen. On this occasion, Carnegie quoted a passage from one of his popular works, *How to Stop Worrying and Start Living*.

According to Carnegie, "A principal cause for nervous and mental disorders is that too many people allow themselves to collapse under the crushing burdens of accumulated yesterdays and fearful tomorrows." He suggested that too many of us try to live *in* the past and *for* the future—*at the same time*—which, he insists, is impossible. In trying to live this way, we wreck both our bodies *and* our minds.

The solution? Live for today! It is probable that part of today's work will call for past reflection, a review of the past. In like manner, there must be *some* planning for tomorrow. The injunction to live for today does not dismiss the *importance* of yesterday or tomorrow. Rather, it proposes that one should look neither *backward* nor *forward* with *fear and trembling*.

Christ himself said, "Take no thought for the morrow. It will take care of itself." He taught that we should live for today, but He never suggested that the future should not be considered. Today was emphasized because today is all we are guaranteed. We should not, however, "turn it into a physical and mental hell by aimless worry about the future," as Carnegie put it.

Quote Stevenson, "Anyone can carry his burden, however hard, until nightfall. Anyone can do his work, however hard, for one day."

Living within today—and living well therein—will precipitate better tomorrows. Something we all need!

A sense of sorrow, pain, longing, distress . . .

REGRETS

by Joyce Proctor Beaman



dissatisfaction, remorse, grief, tinged with a feeling of disappointment . . . .

I have often heard my dad say that one of the main regrets of his life was that he did not have enough time to spend with us children when we were young. During those Depression days and war years, when labor was very scarce, with farm work, custom work for the neighbors, caring for the livestock morning and night, and other duties, he often left us in bed when he went to work in the fields and did not return until we were asleep again in the evening. I always assured him that it was not the quantity of time spent with us, but the quality—and the quality was always good. But he never seemed quite satisfied.

If someone were to ask, "What is the chief regret of your life?" what would your answer be? Because we are physical beings, not spiritual ones, I am sure that the answers would be numerous for each individual and that all of us would have regrets.

We may regret that we do not read the Bible enough, that we do not pray enough, or attend church so much as we should. We regret that we do not take time to eat properly and well, to think right, and to exercise regularly.

But I imagine that one of the main regrets would be that we do not spend enough time with friends, with other human lives that we love.

Jesus said, "This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you." It is true that we can love in spirit, apart from one another, but fellowship in person is so much sweeter.

Friendship, like so many other good things, is an almost selfish experience because we receive so much more, oftentimes, than we are able to give. Robert Louis Stevenson said, "A friend is a present you give to yourself." But

(Continued on Page 4)

remember, if you crush rose petals in your palm, the fragrance will linger on the hand you clasp. So friendship is a two-way joy.

Emerson wrote: "A friend is a person with whom I can be sincere." What greater joy than another human life with whom I can be truthful, sincere, open, and uninhibited. An unknown author wrote: "There are two things that go into the make-up of friendship, the one is truth, the other is understanding."

Proverbs 18:24 states: "A man that hath friends must show himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Proverbs 17:17 says: "A friend loveth at all times," and John 15:13 challenges in all its beauty: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Perhaps, with many other things, we need to stop to consider how the rush of our busy life has caused us to neglect our friends. We may be so busy that we cannot even at this moment visit a friend, but we can breathe this prayer which God's Spirit can take across the airways: "The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another." (See Genesis 31:49.)

Or the Irish blessing: "May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."

Man is the ultimate of God's creation. Human life is sacred. A part of it, which we call the soul, is the only thing which time passes on to eternity. Therefore, when we link our life to that of another in spiritual friendship, this is honorable in the sight of God.

Especially, when we tune our lives to that Great Friend of Galilee, we touch the very heart of God.



ALL CHILDREN'S BOOKS

20% OFF

SATURDAY, APRIL 1



One Day Only

APRIL IS . . .

HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION MONTH



Groundbreaking at Cape Colony

Pictured above is Cape Colony Mission's groundbreaking service held on March 18. Groundbreaking has become a familiar scene for new home missions during the past five years. Let us continue to keep this department strong and moving ahead. Our future well-being as a denomination depends upon it.



SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Scripture Reading—Psalm 4:5

DRIVING AND WORRYING DON'T MIX

Edward Francis said "I nearly wrecked my car. I was so agitated over the immediate future, that the racing machine reflected my bitter emotions. 'What in the world can I do?' I kept asking: 'how will it be possible for me to figure a way out of this dark situation?' And just then the other fellow had to do some good driving to avoid my wild car. He was a fine spirited chap, and simply said, 'Excuse me, mister, but you just can't drive and worry,' then went on. I sat still a moment, and a text popped up: 'Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.' And I saw for the first time, that I, a child of God, was mentally living on a hobo basis."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We have all heard that drinking and driving don't mix. Now we hear that driving and worrying don't mix. Each of these things can cause a person to have a wrecked car as well as a wrecked life.

MONDAY, APRIL 3

Scripture Reading—Matthew 15:9

HER TABERNACLE

Near Largs, Scotland, there used to live a poor woman with a large family. They lived in a tiny house consisting of a "but and ben." Her husband was a laborer and found it hard to supply the growing needs of his family. To help ease the heavy burden the woman took in washings. Day by day she stood over the tub or the ironing board, with children and chickens about her, earning a little money. But the spiritual life of this woman was so deep and true, in spite of her hard labor, that her influence for good was felt in a remarkable way throughout the whole region. Even the minister would often tether his horse by her door when passing and take a seat by her, as she went on with her work, for the inspiration and help she was to him. One day he said, "My good friend, you always seem so near the Lord. How is it possible when you can never get alone with Him for a quiet prayer?" The woman, with a look of surprise, laid down her iron, seated herself, and said, "Ah, Meenister, that's whar ye mak' the mistake. When I wint tae shut all oot I jist sit me doon in ma chair, an' throw me apron owr ma heed, an' I'm in ma tabernacle alone wi' me Lord in a moment."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you have a tabernacle where you can pray to God? How about your closet? How about your chair as the old woman had? You should always pray to God each day.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 64:8

REFRESHED BY WORKING!

I knew a dear man, one of the greatest men for physical exercise I ever saw. He worked hard on the street railroad. I would see him down on his knees, a great big covering over his eyes to shield them from the brilliant light as he welded the steel rails. By Saturday noon he was just worn out, and he would get a bundle of books and off he would go for exercise, over the hills and far away, hunting up poor needy souls, maybe in the county hospital, possibly in the jails, and to poor families. Sometimes he would hear of somebody lying sick and poor and miserable, and he would go to see that one. And you know he had a remarkable way of preaching the Gospel. He would often lay down a five-dollar bill at the side of the bed, if he found out that they had no money to pay the bills. On Sunday he would say, "My! I was worn out yesterday, but I had a wonderful time Saturday afternoon, and I am all rested up!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Work never hurt a man, especially when he is working for the Lord. We should do all we can for Him.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

Scripture Reading—John 15:18

DIFFERENT DRUMBEAT!

Thoreau, the naturalist-philosopher, in defending some of his oddities, wrote once, "If I do not keep in step with others, it is because I hear a different drumbeat." The Christian may well say this. If our inner ears have been attuned to the music of the heavens, we hear the drumbeat of the skies, and therefore we must of very necessity seem to the world to be out of step with all that goes on down here which is contrary to the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Christian should tune out the drumbeat of the world and should hear the sound of rejoicing from God. What a wonderful sound!

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 14:5

"I SHO' LOVES MY JESUS"

A pastor, deeply concerned for the salvation of a Christ-rejecting lawyer, prepared a sermon especially for him, and urged that he attend a designated service. The lawyer accepted the invitation with thanks. He was unmoved, however, by the sermon, and left the church. An illiterate Negro woman, whose heart was filled with the love and compassion of Jesus, approached the learned lawyer, and, with tears streaming down her black face, she said, "I sho' loves my Jesus, and won't you love my Jesus , too?" The dead-in-earnest plea went as a dart directly to the heart of the lawyer, who presently began to rejoice in the Saviour's love and forgiveness! Can we overestimate the place and power of the personal plea to sinners and to surrender to the Saviour?

PRAYER THOUGHT

One of the first songs which most of us learned to sing as a little child was "Jesus Loves Me." Yes, Jesus does love His children.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Scripture Reading—Matthew 28:19

TALKS CHRIST ONLY

A religious paper tells of the reporters who rushed to see Pastor Martin Niemoeller, after his release, that they might get some "juicy copy." Instead, they heard a stirring Gospel message and one reporter was heard to say: "Six years in a Nazi prison camp and all he has got to talk about is Jesus Christ."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus is wonderful to talk about. You should never get tired of hearing or talking about Him. There is so much to tell about Him.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

Scripture Reading—Romans 7:18

GOD'S PLAN FOR US

What would happen today if you or I should say from the heart, "Lord, work thy will with me"? Dare we do it? Are we afraid? If so, what do we fear? What is God's will? What does He want to make of us? We have heard the story of the man who dreamed that a man of wondrous beauty and noble bearing approached him. With admiration and envy he gazed and said, "Who is this stranger of so majestic mien?" The answer came, "That is the man God meant you to be."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We can have the riches of Heaven, if we but believe in God. He is so wonderful to us.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

A Christian Home for Boys and Girls

free will baptist children's home

MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA

J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

NEW NEEDS, NEW PROGRAMS, NEW PEOPLE

Our generation has brought us many advances in our living, at the same time we have some new problems. Troubled young people is one of the most difficult problems we face. The new look in juvenile care is away from training schools. A crime must be committed before a child goes to a training school. This leaves the child with a behavior problem in between. The child with behavior problems too great to stay in his own home or in a group care facility has only one alternative, foster homes. There are only half enough homes for these children in North Carolina.

Another approach to the problem is group homes. A home in local communities and on campuses of Children's Homes that is set up and staffed specifically for the child with behavior problems. These homes are more secure than the usual cottage and life is more structured.

The people who manage these special cottages are a special breed. They not only must have a desire to work with children, they must have a high tolerance for behavior problems. They must be specifically trained in the area of behavior modification and discipline. These houseparents are usually college graduates in the field of sociology and psychology. Usually they are young and without a family of their own.

Their work is not easy and immediate rewards are not likely. However, given time, love, and a lot of help, many of these children can get it together and go on to live productive lives.

One half of the applications received by our Home are turned down because of behavior problems beyond our means to cope with them. Nearly that many of our recent discharges were for the same reason. These children have no place to go but back into local communities where that devient behavior usually gets them into trouble with the law, and finally, training school and prison.

The people are available to minister to these children. They are professionals and, consequently, salaries in their field are higher. When one measures the value of a child saved, the cost seems immaterial. There is a challenge before us. We as Free Will Baptists are in a position to look into more diversified areas of care. We have the buildings that could be adapted for such care. We have the space available. We have the people available; however, funds are not that plentiful.

If our people who have accepted the mandate of our Lord, to suffer all children to come unto us who have needs, will dedicate themselves to the task before us, with the help of our Heavenly Father, we believe this greatly needed expansion of care can come about.

The Revision Committee on the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet April 3, at St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Sampson County, near Newton Grove, at 10 a. m.

Bill Futch, Secretary

Auxiliaries IN Action

ATTENTION, NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARIES!

The 1978 session of the North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene on Thursday, May 4, at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown. Each auxiliary should represent with one delegate for each 25 members or fraction thereof, plus a registration fee of $5.

Many auxiliaries mail their fees in advance. This is a good thing to do, as it saves the delegates the trouble of handling the money. Also, in the event something happens at the last minute to prohibit your representing in person, your auxiliary is registered as having been represented.

IMPORTANT: Please mail your fee before April 25, if possible, so that I will have time to get the list prepared and delivered to the convention registration committee for use on the morning of May 4. If you cannot possibly attend, please mail your fees as the convention needs your support. Mail fees to the following address: Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, State Treasurer, 517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, N. C. 27893.

WESTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The Western District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene at Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Wayne County, Route 2, Fremont on April 5. The theme for the convention is: "Looking Unto Jesus" with Scripture from Hebrews 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the same, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Morning Session

9:15—Registration
9:45—Hymn, "'Tis So Sweet to Trust In Jesus"
—Devotions, Mrs. Agnes Corbitt, Union Grove Church
—Welcome, Mrs. Donna Holland, Local Auxiliary
—President's Remarks, Mrs. James Joyner, Kenly Church
10:15—Hymn, "I Am Thine, O Lord"
—Missions Report, Mrs. Florence Taylor, Calvary Church
—Benevolence Report, Mrs. Nadine Crocker, Mount Zion Church
—Report on Our Youth, Mrs. Charlotte Griffin, First Church, Durham
11:15—Hymn, "The Light of the World Is Jesus"
—Offering and Prayer
—Special Music, Local Auxiliary
—Convention Message, Mrs. Jean Ackiss, Spring Hill Church
12:00—Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:15—Hymn, "Standing on the Promises"
—Devotion, Mrs. C. E. Ladd, Sherron Acres Church
—Memorial Prayer
—Special Music, Sherron Acres Church
—Business Session
2:30—Benediction

PEE DEE DISTRICT AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The Pee Dee District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene at the Beaverdam Free Will Baptist Church, Chadbourn, on Saturday, April 1, 1978. The convention theme will be "The Security of the Godly," with Scripture taken from Psalm 91. The program is as follows:

9:30—Devotions, Mrs. Hattie Bright
—Welcome, Mrs. Louise Cartrette
—Response, Mrs. Linda Bryan
—President's Message, Mrs. Huldah Kinlaw
—Special Music
—Business Session
—Chairman's Reports
—Committee Reports
—Hymn
—Message, Mrs. Dola Dudley, State Woman's Auxiliary Missions Chairman
—Lunch
—Memorial Service, Mrs. Katy Duncan
—Installation of Officers, Mrs. Rachel Duncan, State Woman's Auxiliary President

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PLEASANT PLAIN AUXILIARY PRESENTS CHECK



Pleasant Plain Auxiliary presents check to district treasurer as state treasurer and pastor look on.

Last June Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church had six of their youth to return from the General Youth Conference at Cragmont excited, enthused and filled with the Holy Spirit.

On Sunday morning when these young people gave their testimony to the Sunday school, they stated that each church which was represented at the Conference had been challenged to go home and send $1,000 toward the New Main Building Fund before they returned to camp in 1978.

Two or three of the women had the idea to sponsor a banquet on behalf of the youth to raise money for the Cragmont Building Fund. At the July Women's Auxiliary meeting in 1977, the idea was presented. A motion was passed; a committee was elected and plans began to proceed with this project. The committee immediately received a pledge of support and cooperation.

The committee worked hard on this project and challenged each auxiliary member to pay at least five dollars on this project. They planned the banquet for Saturday night, February 18, 1978 with Mrs. Dola Dudley of Smithfield as guest speaker; the youth of the church serving as ushers, waiters and waitresses and the menu consisting of: ham, fried chicken, potato salad, string beans, corn, rolls, coffee, tea, and cake. The Valentine motif was to be used throughout the banquet with a color scheme of red and white.

In January of 1978, the committee announced their plans to the Sunday school and church inviting them to attend and participate in this worthy cause. It was also announced that those paying for a square foot in the amount of $25 would receive a certificate of recognition. At this time the men decided to try to match the women's funds.

On February 8, there was placed in the vestibule of the church, a red and white chart denoting those who had pledged their challenge, those who had paid their challenge and those who had paid for a square foot.

The pastor, the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser, invited the Cragmont Director, the Rev. Doug Skinner to speak the following morning and permitted the group to receive a special offering for the Cragmont Building Fund.

When the money was finally counted, they had raised at the banquet, $870 and the special offering was $140; thus givng the youth of Pleasant Plain church, $1,010 to be applied to the Cragmont Building Fund, with 25 certificates having been presented to those buying one or more square feet.

CRAGMONT '77

Kim Burgess
June 20, 1977

In the year of '77
Our bus turned the curve,
A pile of bricks was all we saw;
The Building had served its term.

It made us all very sad
To our eyes came tears,
For Cragmont would no longer be the same
Through the coming many years.

But soon we found our tears were gone
There still was the Spirit of the Lord;
It wasn't that Building that had given the love,
It was the people on one accord.

The Building still meant a lot
Things weren't quite the same,
Though we continued to worship God
And praise His Holy Name.

Another Building will soon be built
It will mean almost as much,
When we go and have more memories
And give it the Lord's blessed touch.

So pray as hard as you can
That the Lord will bless us all,
To see another Main Building,
Standing upright and tall.

CRAGMONT

1978 CAMP SCHEDULE

Cragmont will be opened May 15 through October 31, 1978. The scheduled conferences are as follows:

JUNE 19-24: GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE—The Rev. John Williams, director-registrar, Route 2, Wilson, North Carolina 27893; phone: (919) 237-8938.

JUNE 26—JULY 1: CHRISTIAN CADETS CONFERENCE—The Rev. Bobby Taylor, director-registrar, Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, North Carolina 28590; phone: (919) 756-2391.

JULY 3-8: YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (YFA, ages 13 and up)—Mrs. D. W. "Ma" Hansley, director-registrar, Route 4, Box 163, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551; phone: (919) 566-3621.

JULY 10-15: YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (AFC, ages 9-12)—Mrs. D. W. "Ma" Hansley, director-registrar, Route 4, Box 163, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551; phone: (919) 566-3621.

JULY 17-20: MINISTERS' CONFERENCE—The Rev. Walter Reynolds, director, 401 New Circle Drive, Ayden, North Carolina 28513 ; phone: (919) 746-3906.

JULY 30—AUGUST 5: YOUNG PEOPLES BIBLE CONFERENCE—The Rev. J. B. Starnes, director-registrar, Route 3, Box 123, Newport, North Carolina 28570; phone: (919) 223-4750.

AUGUST 7-12: WOMAN'S CONFERENCE—Mrs. Dola Dudley, director; Mrs. Lillie Mae Sasser, registrar, Route 2, Box 497, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

AUGUST 14-18: FAMILY WEEK—The Rev. Douglas Skinner, director-registrar, c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 N. Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711; phone: (704) 669-7677.

OPEN PERIODS: May 15—June 18; July 21-30; August 18—October 31, 1978.

The cost for youth encampments at Cragmont this summer will be $50 (unless a change is made later). The registration fee is $7 with the remainder due upon boarding the bus. The Woman's Conference will be $50 per person including the $10 registration fee. Send your name, address, sex, age, and registration fee to the registrar of the conference you desire to attend. There is no preregistration for the Ministers' Conference.

Rates: Motel room rates per night: one person, $4; two persons, $6; three persons, $7.50; four or more persons, $9.

Rooms in other buildings per night: $2.

Meals: adults, breakfast, $1.50; lunch or dinner, $1.75; children (12 and under), breakfast, $1.00; lunch or dinner, $1.25.

NEWS & NOTES

Revival Services
Saint Mary's Church, Kenly



J. M. Creech

Revival services are scheduled for April 10-14 at Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, near Kenly. The Rev. J. M. Creech of Dunn will be the evangelist. Special music will be featured each evening. Each service will be preceded by prayer sessions at 7:15 and services will begin at 7:30 p. m. A very cordial welcome is extended to everyone to come and worship during these services.

Owen's Chapel Church
Announces Revival

Revival services will begin on April 2 and will continue through April 8 at the Owen's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City. The Rev. Rex Edwards will be the guest speaker. The pastor, the Rev. Swade Benson, and members invite everyone to attend these services. Special music will be provided each night. Prayer room starts at 7:30 p. m. Services will begin at 7:45 p. m.

Note Burning Service
Saints Delight Church

On Easter Sunday, March 26, Sts. Delight Free Will Baptist Church, on the Aurora Road, near New Bern, observed Easter Sunday in a very special way. The Rev. Noah Brown is the pastor. The Lord has truly been with the church in the past months and they were able to pay-off the loan on the parsonage, and it was during the eleven o'clock worship hour that there was a note burning service. Praise the Lord for this achievement.

Black Jack Church
Licenses Minister



Joe Hudson

On January 15, 1978 the Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Greenville, witnessed the presentation of license to her first son in the ministry, Brother Joe Hudson. The activities were a part of the morning service and shared by each member of his family. After a message on the call of the minister based on 1 Timothy 3:1-7. the pastor, the Rev. Bobby G. Bazen, on behalf of the church presented the certificate of license. It was the privilege of the deacons to gather around the altar and pray for God to bless and use the man that He had called into the ministry. Brother Hudson is twenty-five years old, married, and is currently enrolled in Carolina Bible Institute, Pine Level. Churches and ministers needing someone for pulpit supply may contact him at Route 3, Box 224-C, Greenville, N. C. 27834, phone 752-2956; or through the Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Box 325, Greenville, N. C. 27834, phone 752-6485.

Adult Class, Friendship
Church Entertained

The Adult Sunday School Class of Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, in Johnston county, was entertained on Saturday night, March 18 by the Young Adult Sunday School Class. The event was held at the church education fellowship hall. A St. Patrick's Day theme was carried out in the building. Green candles were used on the table with green streamers down the tables. A green and white bouquet of flowers was used on the table. Green shamrocks were used for placecards and as each member arrived they were given a St. Patrick to wear. The Rev. Dwight Chapman, pastor of the church, welcomed everyone and gave the opening and closing prayers. Approximately 50 people attended and had a very enjoyable evening.

Rose Hill Church
Announces Revival

The members of the Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, are looking forward to a week of revival services beginning at 7:45 Monday night, April 3, continuing through Friday night, April 7, with the Rev. Frank Brinson of Stokes as the evangelist. Special music will be provided each evening. The pastor, the Rev. Dan Beaman, joins the members in inviting everyone to attend these services.

Revival in Progress
Mt. Zion Church

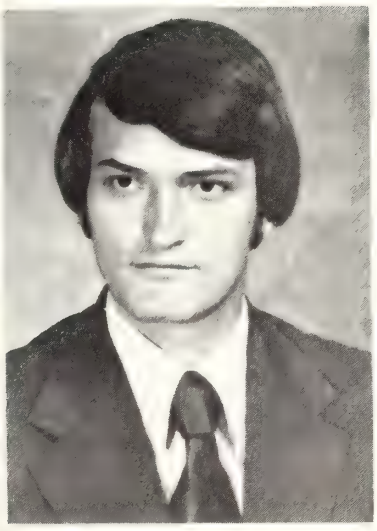
Revival is in progress at the Mt. Zion

Free Will Baptist Church of Route 3, Kenly, through March 31. Services are beginning at 7:45 p. m. The evangelist is the Rev. Ralph Aycock of Kenly. Prayer services began each evening at 7:30. The pastor, the Rev. J. B. Godwin, and the entire congregation of Mt. Zion invite everyone to join in praise and worship during the remainder of these services.

Piney Grove Church, Kenly
To Have Revival

Beginning April 2, Sunday night at 7 p. m., the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Kenly, will begin spring revival services. Services will follow each evening at 7:30 through Thursday night. The Rev. Leonard B. Woodall will be the guest speaker. The pastor, the Rev. Preston Smith, and the church members extend a warm welcome to everyone to attend. Special singing will be featured.

Marlboro Church
Has Revival

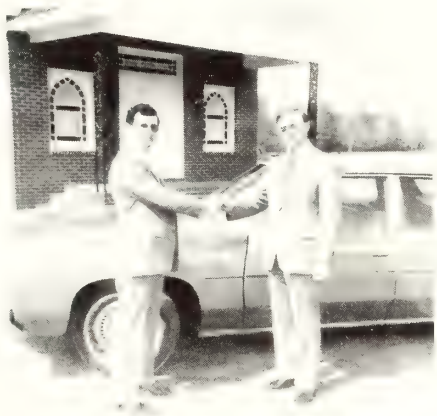


Marvin Waters

Revival services will begin on April 3 and continue through April 7 at Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, on 264 By-Pass. The Rev. Marvin Waters of Shiloh church, Pinetown, will be the guest speaker, assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Scott Sowers. The services will begin each evening at 7:30 with special music being provided.

The pastor and its members extend to everyone a special invitation to attend.

Pastor Gets Car
At Edgewood Church



Shown above is J. L. Baker, one of the deacons of the church, presenting the keys to the car, a 1972 Chevrolet to the Rev. Rex Edwards

During the year 1977, the Rev. Rex Edwards became pastor of Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church near Crisp. Since that time, the church has gone to full-time services for the Lord and has began a steady growth. In February of this year, the men of the church decided they wanted to do something very special for the pastor, and so they decided to buy him a car.

Kenly Church
Has Revival

The Rev. Dewey Boling, pastor of the Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, is the evangelist for revival services through March 31 at the Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly. Services are beginning at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. James V. Joyner, cordially invites everyone to attend the reminder of these services, and to pray for a spirit-filled revival.

Spring Branch Church
Announces Revival

Revival services will begin at Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, near Walstonburg, on April 3, and will continue through April 7. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 p. m. with the Rev. O. B. Jones of Tarboro, as the evangelist.

The Rev. Royce Reynolds, pastor, and the church membership extend to everyone a cordial invitation to attend these services.

Bobby Taylor

Holds Revivals



Rev. Bobby Taylor

Revival in Progress
Pleasant Hill Church

The Rev. Bobby Taylor from Route 1, Winterville, is the speaker at the revival services at the Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, located on N. C. 43 near Calico Crossroads, continuing through Saturday night, April 1. Services are beginning nightly at 7:45. Everyone is invited to attend the reminder of these services.

Piney Grove Church, Albertson
Announces Revival

The members of the Piney Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church announce a revival which will be held April 3 through April 7, with services starting each evening at 7:30. The visiting evangelist will the Rev. Bobby Taylor, pastor of the Bethany Original Free Will Baptist Church, located near Winterville. The church will have special singing nightly through the course of the revival. Piney Grove Church is located three miles east of Albertson, on RPR 1539. The church and its pastor, the Rev. Larry J. Crumpler Jr., extend a warm invitation for everyone to attend.

First Church, Warsaw
Announces Revival

Spring revival will begin Monday night, April 10 and continue through

(Continued on Page 12)

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 11)

Friday night, April 14, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Warsaw. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. The evangelist will be the Rev. Bobby Taylor of Winterville. He will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. M. L. Whitfield. Everyone is invited to attend these services.

Revival in Progress
Casey's Chapel Church

The spring revival is in progress at Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Goldsboro. The evangelist is the Rev. DeWayne Eakes. Services will continue through March 31 starting at 7:30 each evening. Everyone is invited to attend the reminder of these services.

Reception Honors
Rev. and Mrs. Craig Simmons



Left to right: Rev. Craig Simmons, Mrs. Simmons, Mrs. Cox, Rev. Clyde W. Cox

A reception was held Sunday afternoon, March 19, from 3 until 4:30 p. m. in the fellowship hall of the First Free Will Baptist Chruch in Wilson honoring the Rev. and Mrs. Craig Simmons. The Rev. Simmons, a licensed Free Will Baptist minister, assumed the duties of Youth Pastor at the church on March 13.

Upon arrival, the church's pastor, the Rev. Clyde W. Cox and Mrs. Cox presented Mrs. Simmons with a corsage of spring flowers and the Rev. Simmons with a white carnation boutonniere.

Guests were greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Whitley and Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Beaman.

Party squares, nuts, mints, pickles, sandwiches and lemon punch were served from a refreshment table centered with an arrangement of mixed spring flowers. Assisting in the serving were Mrs. A. J. Scott, Mrs. Gary Taylor, Mrs. J. D. Skinner, Mrs. Clinton Proctor, and Mrs. Harold Davis.

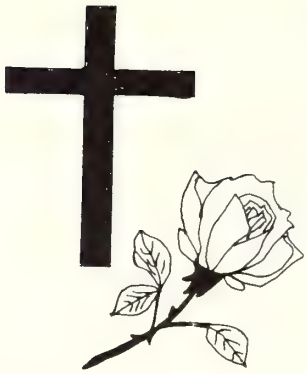
Piano music during the afternoon was provided by Miss Ramey Jo Dickerson, Miss Renee Sullivan, Miss Donna Fulghum, Miss Amanda Sullivan, Miss Michelle Baker, Miss Tammy Proctor, Miss Marsha Howell, and Miss Joni Owens.

Goodbyes were said by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dickerson and Mr. and Mrs. Al Vester.

Special out-of-town guests at the reception were Mr. and Mrs. Fentress Simmons from Creswell, and Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Warren and Mary Lynn Warren from Williamston.

The Rev. Simmons attended Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College. Mrs. Simmons is a student at East Carolina University.

The couple now reside at Apt. 506-C Pickett Street in Wilson.



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

I can remember so vividly the first Easter that the meaning of Jesus' pain and agony on the Cross was made real to me. I thank a special person for that realization. She was my Sunday school teacher at that time. I can remember that His torture and His darkest hour on earth was for me. For that, all my sins are forgiven.

That was one of God's special moments with me.

NAME WITHHELD
Farmville

Coming Events . . .

April—Home Missions and Church Extension Month

April 1—Mount Olive Singers will be at Crabtree Valley Mall in Raleigh for College Day. They will perform at 11 a. m., 1 p. m., 3 p. m., 5 p. m., and 7 p. m.

April 1—Annual Alumni Banquet and meeting for Mount Olive College beginning at 5:30 p. m.

April 1—Daily Vacation Bible School Workshop, Ayden

April 3—Mount Olive Singers on Peggy Mann Show, Channel 11 WTVD-Durham at 1 p. m.

April 3—Revision Committee on the Statement of Faith and Disciple will meet at St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Sampson County, 10 a. m.

April 4—Ordaining Council of the Central Conference meets at the Free Will Baptist Press, 10 a. m.

April 8—Mount Olive College High School Day beginning at 10:00 a. m.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For April 9

THE CHURCH MEETS TROUBLE

Lesson Text: Acts 5:17-29
Memory Verse: Acts 5:41

I. INTRODUCTION

There is danger in being a Christian, danger in being different, danger in being a nonconformist. There is the probability of being misunderstood. There is also the danger of misrepresentation and persecution. In the apostolic days—and even since apostolic times—Christians who dared to be different were subject to persecution, even death.

We live in a time when men call for "logical" or "reasonable" explanations for every phenomenon. This dependency on the self-sufficiency of man suggests that God is only a convenient helper for the weak or is to be used to provide a dignified halo to certain major events in a person's life. Some seem bent on eliminating God completely from human thinking and human life. This attitude is not confined to those countries that espouse godless communism; it is all too prevalent in our own country, especially in our educational institutions.

To believe in God, to order life by His Word, to preach salvation in the name of Jesus marks Christians, in the eyes of many, as gullible, naive, superstitious people. Many Christians, both young and old, are faced with the subtle yet strong weapon of ridicule. This is one of the devices that the devil uses successfully.

The early Christians dared to be different. They dared to be faithful to God when opposed by men. Christians today must stand for the Lord and fulfill their mission at all costs.

—Standard Lesson Commentary

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Christianity was severely tried during the early years. We have seen how Satan attacked the church in three ways. First, Satan attacked the young church with persecution. False arrests and threats were made upon the lives of the leaders. Satan employed the government, the established ecclesiastics, and the **status quo** to try to accomplish his ends. In spite of this, the young church grew, spread, inspired, and inflamed an ever-increasing multitude.

B. The second weapon that Satan used against the young church was prosperity. The church had all things in common and through this met all of the needs of the members. Satan took advantage of their growth and prosperity to try to defeat them. Many are more apt to forget God in health than in sickness and in prosperity rather than in poverty. Yet this did not stop the growth and witness of the young church.

C. Internal disturbances was the third attack that Satan made upon the young church. Ananias and Sapphira, members of the church, agreed to lie, deceive, and cheat the church. This affair must have had a disconcerting effect upon the church; it is always a tragedy when the devil gets on the inside of the church. But, as our lesson for today will show, even this did not defeat the church.

D. Satan did not simply try one way and then withdraw it. Each time, he added another dimension to his attacks. We may expect Satan to attack today's church in all three of these ways.

E. Today's lesson is about the second persecution of the apostles. In the first persecution (Acts 4:17), they were threatened; now they are thrown into prison (5:18) and beaten with **forty stripes save one** (5:40).

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Although born of and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the Early Church was subjected to much persecution. The orthodox Jews felt their influence and power over the people was threatened by these Christians, so they opposed them. The first of these persecutions took place when Peter and John were brought before the Sanhedrin after they healed the lame man.

B. Today's lesson brings us to the second persecution, which affected all the apostles. But, as the Holy Spirit had come to the aid of Peter and John, so He helped the other apostles as they were brought to task for their testimony.

C. Thus we can see that the church faced opposition from its very inception. But if these sporadic persecutions were irritating and unpleasant, the worst was yet to come. These persecutions increased in intensity and ferocity until the beginning of the fourth century A. D.

D. Behind opposition to the church, of course, is the power and influence of Satan. He knows he cannot take the church away from the love of God and cause it to be lost again, however hard he may try. But he can oppress its members, and distress them and cause them to fight among themselves, thereby lessening the power of the church as a witness. Only we can cause ourselves to be castaways by becoming apostate as professing believers, and thereby losing our salvation because of our loss of faith.

—Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)

ATTENTION

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet April 4 at the Free Will Baptist Press at 10 a. m.

All persons having business with this Council, please attend this meeting.

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ANNUAL ALUMNI MEETING AND BANQUET

Saturday, April 1

4-6 p. m.—New campus open for tour
5:30-6:30 p. m.—Registration
6:30 p. m.—Banquet and meeting
—Reception in honor of Classes of 1958 and 1968 sponsored by the Student Government Association

Students of Ayden Seminary and Eureka College are cordially invited to attend

MISSION OF THE CHURCH RETREAT

Eagles Nest Conference Center
Saturday, April 1

9:30 a. m.—Fellowship session
10:00 a. m.—Session 1, Christian Discipleship (Acts)
12:00 noon—Lunch
1:00 p. m.—Session 11, Fulfilling the Christian commitment

Registration will be $5 and will include lunch. The Rev. David Comer, minister of Grace Baptist Church in Statesville, will be retreat leader. Advance reservations should be made by contacting Frank Harrison at Mount Olive College 658-2502 (office) or 658-9363 (home).

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will present the 25th Anniversary program of Mount Olive College to Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County on Sunday, April 2 at 10 a. m. He will also speak at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Preston Smith is pastor.

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of gospel music on Sunday, April 2 at Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, during the morning worship service. The Rev. Marvin Waters is pastor.

The New Creations will appear at Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Rock Ridge for the evening service. The Rev. A. B. Chandler is pastor.

MOUNT OLIVE SINGERS ON TV APRIL 3

The Mount Olive Singers under the direction of Mrs. Irene Patten, will appear on the Peggy Mann show, Monday, April 3 at 1 p. m. on Channel 11 WTVD-Durham.

The program will be telecast live and everyone is encouraged to watch.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE WEEK

("Student of the Week" is a feature made available by the Mount Olive Tribune and run in cooperation with th Mount Olive News Bureau.

Selection of "student of the week" i based on nominations submitted b Mount Olive College students and faculty members that are drawn at random fron a nominations box.)



Timothy Guffey

Timothy Guffey, 20, a sophomore, has been chosen this week as Mount Olive College's student of the week.

He is a native of Middlesex, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Guffey.

Tim has not decided on a major, but says he is "leaning toward business."

At Mount Olive College, he is president of the Young Democrats Club, a representative of the third floor men's dorm for college intramurals, and is a member of the Free Will Baptist Fellowship.

Tim has been listed on the Dean's list two out of three semesters.

He also has a brother, Garland, 22, who is a sophomore at Mount Olive. They are members of Friendship Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of February,

1977 totaled $594.95 and were as follows:

Mrs. Evelyn E. Boykin by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama; and Mr. and Mrs. Felton Watson, Kenly.

Mrs. Dorothy R. Carter by Mr. R. S. Williams, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Emma Daughtry by Cape Fear Women's Auxiliary Officers, Clinton; and Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention.

Mr. Samuel Edison Daughtry by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Miss Minnie Deans by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Sr., Lucama.

Mrs. Minnie Dickson by Mr. and Mrs. Doug Connor, Mount Olive; Mr. R. S. Williams, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Mabel Grady Faulk by Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive.

Mr. C. W. Flowers by Mr. and Mrs. Phil Weaver, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Mary Guin by Miss Sara Willoughby, Ahoskie.

Mrs. Ruth Harrison by Young Adult Sunday School Class, Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church, Snow Hill.

Mr. Ed Herring by Mr. and Mrs. Randall Albertson, Mount Olive; Mr. Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Langley, Calypso; Dr. and Mrs. M. M. Lownes, Jr., Mount Olive; Miss Margaret Martin, Mount Olive; D. J. and W. B. Murray, Mount Olive; and Dr. and Mrs. William Allen Potts, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Carrie Davenport Jackson by Miss Verdie Davenport, Deep Run.

Mrs. Sarah C. Jackson by Lou Esther Jackson, Kinston.

Mrs. Annie Mercer Jenkins by Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Glover, Dr. E. Lee Glover, Silver Springs, Maryland.

Mrs. Bursie Boykin Johnson by Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive; Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Howard, Newport.

Mr. Molton Mitchell by Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Braswell, Princeton, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Evans, Sr., Kenly; and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Woodard, Princeton.

Mrs. Mary Lou Nash by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mr. Atlas B. Nichols by Miss Frances Boyette, Lucama; and Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Sr., Lucama.

Mrs. Janice H. Overman by Ronnie Vann Hobgood and Mitizi Jenell Corbett, Farmville; Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Sr., Lucama; the Rev. and Mrs. Frank Harrison, Mount Olive.

Miss Mattie Parrish by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Sr., Lucama.

Mr. Muscoe Stotler Porter, Sr. by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive and Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Lewis, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Sarah Blue Robinson by Mr. Eugene L. Gaskill, Fayetteville.

Mrs. Harry H. Root, Sr. by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mr. F. F. Sutton by Miss Margaret Martin, Mount Olive.

Mr. Major I. Swinson by the Annie W. Davis Family, Mount Olive and Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive.

The Rev. Billy Twiddy by Fifth Eastern Union, Vanceboro.

Mrs. Lula B. Webb by Mrs. Daisy Owens, Elm City.

In Honor of

The Rev. Walter Carter by Youth Fellowship Auxiliary, East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham, and Mrs. W. I. Long, Rockingham.

Amanda Lynn Creech by Mount Olive Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Donna Ann Daughtry by Mrs. R. Y. Stephenson, Clayton.

James Ian Heath by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Gifts

Mount Olive Extension Homemakers Club, Mount Olive.

Friendship Woman's Auxiliary, Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. James Warren of Kinston announces that he is now available for full-time services. Any church in need of a full-time pastor can reach him at the following address: Rev. James Warren, 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or phone, 527-1648. He is in good standing with the Eastern Conference and was ordained in September of 1972.

Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Aurora, will be in need of a pastor beginning in July. They request services on first, second, third, and fourth Sunday mornings. For further information contact Mildred G. Brothers, Route 1, Box 365, Aurora, North Carolina 27806.

CORRECTION, PLEASE!

Our apologies to Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, North Carolina, to its pastor, the Rev. Jerry Rowe, and to its members! In our history of Reedy Branch church ("Church of the Month," THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, March 22), we stated that Reedy Branch is reputed to be the oldest church in Pitt County. This opinion is widely shared and was factually stated in Carrie Smith Cannon's 1950 history; however, since our printing of the church of the month feature, we have been advised that Gum Swamp church is actually older than Reedy Branch.

Our statement should have read: "Reputed to be ONE of the oldest churches in Pitt County, Reedy Branch had its origin in post-Revolutionary days—sometime around 1800. MANY of the other churches in Pitt County, it is reported, sprang from this one church; and it has served as mother church to a number of churches in adjoining counties as well."

The error was not intentional, and we apologize sincerely to Gum Swamp church for the mistake.

Respectfully,
Tommy Manning, Editor

"PRECIOUS ARE HIS PROMISES"

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 1, 1978

REGISTRATION: 9:30 A. M. **CLASSES BEGIN: 10 A. M.**

Classes: The classes are listed below with their instructors and meeting places. Each person is to select one of these classes for study today.

GENERAL DIRECTORS ..... First Baptist Church Educational Wing
MUSIC DIRECTORS ..... First Baptist Church Sanctuary
Tommy Manning and Susan Beaman
INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT ..... Free Will Baptist Church Annex
Nina Grace Register
JUNIOR DEPARTMENT ..... First Baptist Church Educational Wing
Earl H. Glenn
PRIMARY DEPARTMENT ..... Upstairs, Free Will Baptist Church
Minnie H. Chandler
PRESCHOOL DEPARTMENT ..... Free Will Baptist Church Sanctuary
Jane B. Gainey
CRAFTS AND VISUAL AIDS DEPARTMENT ..... First Baptist Church Educational Wing
Elizabeth Hill

(The Crafts and Visual Aids classes will be staggered with the Music classes.)

CRAFTS AND VISUAL AIDS SCHEDULE

Primary Teachers ..... 10:00-10:30 A.M.
Preschool Teachers ..... 10:30-11:00 A.M.
Junior Teachers ..... 11:00-11:30 A.M.
Intermediate Teachers ..... 11:30-12:00 Noon

MUSIC SCHEDULE

Preschool Teachers ..... 10:00-10:30 A.M.
Primary Teachers ..... 10:30-11:00 A.M.
Intermediate Teachers ..... 11:00-11:30 A.M.
Junior Teachers ..... 11:30-12:00 Noon

(Music Directors may meet with any or all of the above Music classes.)

LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT LOCAL RESTAURANT

After lunch, the public is invited to visit the bookstore to see the complete assortment of VBS materials and supplies. The bookstore will remain open until 5 p. m. (or later, as needs dictate) for those who wish to purchase materials.

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

811 North Lee Street
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA 28513

WALTER REYNOLDS, Manager **TOMMY MANNING, Editor**

DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT WORKSHOP!

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"Leadership is the ability to furnish real guidance in life for one at all levels of Christian activity."

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Cover Photo by Luoma

Editorial . . .

QUALIFICATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHRISTIAN LEADERS

by the Rev. L. E. Ballard

In colonial days, it is said that King George of England sent a number of men to this country to search out straight, strong trees that would make good masts for his ships. These men went to the rivers and lakes of New England, searching their shores for trees that would be acceptable to the king. When suitable trees were found, the men marked "K. G." on them, and charted them on a map, which would go to other men who would cut them, and shape them carefully to be shipped to England for the use of the king's navy. "Marked for a mast, because they are straight and good," was the report they made.

There are those today who are being quietly "marked for a mast," by the Lord to become leaders in His church someday. It is the duty of those who are in control of the church today to search these out, even while they are young, and to help them grow "straight and strong" to become the leaders of the church of the future. If there is such a thing as honoring trees, the trees selected for the King of England were marked for special honor.

What are some of the qualifications and preparations for assuming the role of a leader in our church of today? Perhaps the steps to leading can be summed up by these three words: *fellowship, serviceship,* and *leadership.*

Fellowship means that the ones we choose to prepare for leadership must be in harmony with the principles of faith and the program of the denomination. In past years, we have had some sad experiences with putting our trust in people who were, to some extent, "religious prospectors" and never in full harmony with what Original Free Will Baptists should be by faith and practice. We know of some who were helped through college by their churches and conferences, only to leave us when what they considered "greener fields" were opened to them. Needless to say, prospects should also be morally and spiritually fit to render service above reproach.

Serviceship means that those in whom we invest money and effort should already be active in some kind of Christian service. Very few people who have wasted their early years in idleness, so far as Christian service is concerned, are likely to make very good Christian workers. Of course, some are saved from sinful lives after they have reached maturity and are then called immediately into the service of the Lord. Even then, it is well for those who are the stewards of the Lord's money to make sure of the sincerity and determination of prospective workers before they risk the Lord's money on uncertainties.

We knew of one conference years ago that never licensed a man to preach until he had first obtained a certain amount of exercise in "exhorting"; this same conference would not ordain a man until some church was committed to accept him as pastor. Perhaps this was too strict, but it was protection for the work of the Lord.

Leadership means that those responsible for setting aside prospective Christian workers need to consider their leadership possibilities. Of course there are some good Christian workers who are not called to be leaders in a pronounced sense of the word; but the great need of our denomination is for people who can exercise leadership in some manner. Leaders are needed on all levels of Christian service—at the top, in the middle ranks, and at the bottom.

Dr. John R. Mott says, "Leadership is the ability to furnish real guidance in life for one at all levels of Christian activity." Let us seek leaders for our church, but let us seek for those who *can* lead.

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Smithfield, New Bern, and **Wilson**, 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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Photo by Camerique



IS RELIGION REALLY NECESSARY?

by Nancy Matthews

Study to show thyself approved—unto whom?

IT was quite shocking to learn that most of today's teenagers are almost totally negative about religion. At what age should a teenager be freed to make his own decisions about attending worship services with his family? That was the question.

One young man made the statement he didn't know when he had **ever** been to church. He saw no need. What's the use going, he asked, when you listen to a man talking about something you don't understand.

Another young man, who had already shown by former statements that he holds very firm high moral standards, made the statement that he goes to church every Sunday because of parent demand, only to sit through the service detesting every minute of it.

One panelist said, ''Going to church won't make you into a Christian any more than hanging around a garage will make you into a Volkswagen Rabbit.''

''I don't go to church,'' another said, ''But I wouldn't dare use some of the language some of the 'so-called' Christians use.''

''How do I know my parents' religion is right?'' one young lady asked.

Teenagers associate with these attitudes every day.

Questions. Shocking questions. Good questions.

Frankly, I wouldn't give a dead cricket for a religion or any philosophy that could not stand under questions.

Even I, an ancient middle-ager, find it hard to accept anything on faith alone. To those of us who are questioners, questions come easily. I question the physical with the same ferver as spiritual. I question actions. I question words. It comes as a scary surprise sometimes when my prayers are answered.

When your parents were children, they were taught not to question authority. Government was believed by the people for the good of all people. Our leaders knew best for our country. Their parents knew most of the answers. People, in general, were trustworthy. You could count on that.

Your parents were educated on fairy tales where the beautiful Princess meets a frog who turns into a handsome Prince. They fall in love, get married, and live happily ever after.

But you have been programmed differently.

The handsome quarterback and vivacious cheerleader fall in love and get married. After a couple of babies and inflation wrecking the budget, he has to drop out of college. She's caught in the drudgery of a full-time job, keeping house, and taking the children out to a babysitter. Their relationship becomes strained. He disappears with a girl he met in a bar, leaving his ex-cheerleader with the whole load, but without support money. Aid to Dependent Children steps in to cover the bare necessities.

Your education has made you a realist.

With Madison Avenue advertising daily flaunting half-truths and near fantasy, you've learned to question face values. You've seen government people of high rank caught in out-and-out falsehood. You've watched National figures as well as the adult next door change marital partners more than once. You live in a society in which it is more honorable to rob a bank than be caught with bad breath or acne. Good ol' America with the pat answers is no more. The generation before you has taken care of that. They have ridiculously jumbled the values.

Turn the page

No matter how Congressmen lament graduating Johnny can't read, you know if graduating Johnny can't read, it's graduating Johnny's fault. Education is there for him. Today's students are intelligent and bright, probably the brightest in history. You are nobody's fool. A panel discussion shows vividly your head is screwed on right. You live in a marvelous world with possibilities limited only by your individual initiative and creativity.

It would be unnatural for you not to ask questions. With religion affecting your lifestyle with equal force as your choice in marriage or vocation, it is natural for you to question its integrity.

Questions aren't new in religion. Why else would Jesus have spat on the ground and made clay for a man's blind eyes? His touch could have made those sightless eyes see. Why would He tell another to dip in a pool seven times? A mere word would have sufficed. These two men probably found health hard to accept without some physical action. Jesus did not condemn them as we are condemned sometimes. He provided whatever was necessary for their beliefs to be activated.

To know where you are going, you must first decide where you stand at this point in time.

You are one person, one individual.

You live on Earth, one planet of nine which revolve around the Sun, in the center of our Solar System. Look around you. The Earth is a large place. But Saturn, another planet, is large enough to contain 734 melted earths. One million Earths would fit into the Sun, yet the Sun is an average size star.

The Milky Way, which includes our Solar System, includes thousands of stars, some so far away the distance is measured in light-years. But scientists have proved the Milky Way is only one of many, many, many galaxies. Does it make you feel like a tiny speck on the tiny planet, Earth? Are you overwhelmed with the vastness of the universe? How did it get there?

The traffic pattern of the Sun, the planets, and their many moons is so delicately set, a fraction of an inch, or a fraction of a second off in orbit would be disastrous for the whole System. Who is Director of Traffic Planning?

Can you see this system was not evolved by chance?

Look at your hand. It is quite a flexible and useful instrument, performing many varied tasks. You can use it as a hook, an anchor, a crane, tongs, a lethal weapon, a rake, a hoe, a dipper—the list is endless. One of your versatile fingers supports your class ring. All of this magnificance on one appendage of the most marvelous piece of machinery known to modern science! Even if it took a billion years, as some scientists say, and stages from a single amoeba into a slimy mass that crawled out of the water to become monkey, then finally, man, wasn't a master technique used in drafting the design? Could anything of this complexity come into being without any preplanning?

So here you are—the physical you, an awe-inspiring creation in a universe of such magnitude it staggers the imagination.

Everything in you and around you—your circulatory system, your nervous system, your digestive system, your respiratory system, the tides, the seasons, rainfall, the balance of oxygen, water, and vegetation—the overall picture, the fine lines, the broad view shows graphically, precisely that an overall being, an overall force, an overall person had control of the planning center.

Just as surely as there is a master creator of this vast universe, man's purpose here is for communion with his creator. There is something inborn in man that cries out to this Creator—something undefined, but as real as your fingernail—that nothing else in the whole of creation can satisfy.

No matter how far your progression in educational, financial, or social fields, there will still remain the inner longing between the Creator and man. Man can never be complete until this need is fulfilled. It is a fact of life as basic as being born and dying.

What does this have to do with going to church?

You are a very intelligent human being. You will choose wisely your school of higher education according to your chosen vocation. A cooking school would not prepare you for the field of zoology.

Going to a garage will not make you into an automobile, but if your Trans-Am engine is knocking, you would not fill the fuel tank with pizza and expect the malfunction to be corrected. Common sense dictates certain rules.

The church, even with all its shortcomings and frailties, is the best known place for learning about the mind of your Creator and his relationship to you, about your inner longings, and the way of fulfillment. Don't knock the church until you have entered with an open mind. Ask questions. Don't settle for namby-pamby answers. Demand solid answers. Check these answers against the control—the Bible. You are a special creature in the eyes of God and you deserve to know the very best, the truth. Don't shortchange yourself by making a decision without first weighing all the facts.

Why go to church? Because you are an intelligent, well-educated, wide-awake, realistic teenager whose head is screwed on straight. Because you are nobody's fool.

Don't allow the attitudes and actions of others to cheat your becoming a complete person. Give the church a solid try for a year—then make your decision.

You owe it to yourself because you are special.

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MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL DAY AGENDA

10:00 a. m.—Registration in Henderson Building

10:15 a. m.—Campus Tours
—Refreshments
—Visits with Faculty and Students

11:00 a. m.—Meeting with interested seniors and parents with Admission Staff for detailed career planning, application process, financial aid, etc.

12:00 noon—Lunch at Downtown Auditorium with entertainment by the Mount Olive College Singers

1:30 p. m.—Auditions for Mount Olive College Singers by interested students

churches to select a day for visitation to the College campus,'' President Raper announced. A good plan is for the church to come as a group following the morning worship service and arrive at the College cafeteria at 1 p. m. for lunch. Cost for the lunch will be $2.50 for adults and $1.50 for children. A representative from the College will be on hand to serve as a host and to give the group a tour of the campus and provide information about the College.

''Mount Olive is a beautiful community in the spring and we hope that many Free Will Baptist churches within an hour's driving distance will take advantage of this opportunity to visit the College and learn more about its plans for service to the Free Will Baptist Church,'' Dr. Raper announced.

Churches which wish to arrange a visit should contact President Raper or call his secretary, Mrs. Jean Ackiss and schedule a date so that luncheon reservations can be made and a College host can be available. The College telephone number is (919) 658-2502.

DR. RAPER TO PREACH COMMUNITY REVIVAL

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will hold the community revival services for LaGrange at the LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange, April 16-20 beginning at 7:30 p. m.

The Rev. Carlton Lucas is pastor.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE SUMMER SCHOOL INCLUDES TWO SESSIONS

Applications are now being accepted for summer school at Mount Olive College.

Session A will begin June 12 through June 30 and Session B will be July 10 through 28.

Basic liberal arts courses in business, economics, history, math and science will be offered. Also included are course studies in philosophy, psychology, Spanish, religion, sociology, and physical education.

A selection of seven History courses will include a travel seminar to Europe for three hours credit during Session A.

Golf, tennis and archery are available as outdoors sports under physical education.

For more information, contact the Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; (919) 658-2502.

COLLEGE DAY PLANNED FOR OAK GROVE CHURCH

Sunday, April 9, will be Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church (Cape Fear Conference) Day at Mount Olive College. Members of the church will come in a car caravan to the College for lunch at which they will be given a tour of the College campus afterwhich President W. Burkette Raper will discuss with them plans for the future development of the College. The Rev. C. Felton Godwin is pastor.

''We invite all Free Will Baptist

ANNUAL CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL MAY 6

The Annual Christian Music Festival held at Eagles Nest Conference Center near Mount Olive is set for Saturday, May 6.

The public is invited and admission is free.

The festival will begin at 9:30 a. m. featuring such gospel groups as the Hopper Brothers and Connie from Madison, Heaven Bound from Kinston and many more. A continuous program is scheduled until 5 p. m.

Lunch will be catered by Wilber's Barbecue in Goldsboro. Individuals and groups who wish may bring picnic lunches.

April is Home Missions Month

Family Devotions

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Scripture Reading--Genesis 1:1

HEN OR EGG?

A young skeptic said to an elderly lady: "I once believed there was a God, but now since studying philosophy and mathematics I am convinced that God is but an empty word."

"Well," said the lady, "I have not studied such things, but since you have, can you tell me from whence comes this egg?" "Why, of course, from a hen," was the reply. "And where does the hen come from?" "Why, from an egg." Then the lady inquired: "Which existed first, the hen or the egg?" "The hen, of course," rejoined the young man. "Oh, then a hen must have existed without having come from an egg?" "Oh, no, I should have said the egg was first."

"Then I suppose you mean that one egg existed without having come from the hen?" The young man hesitated: "Well, you see--that is--of course, well the hen was first!"

"Very well," said she, "Who made that first hen from which all suceeding eggs and hens have come?"

"What do you mean by all this?" he asked.

"Simply this, I say that He who created the first hen or egg is He who created the world. You can't explain the existence even of a hen or egg without God, and yet you wish me to believe that you can explain the existence of the whole world without Him!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God created the world and all the things which are in it. Wasn't it a miracle! Aren't you glad to have all the beautiful things around about you?

MONDAY, APRIL 10

Scripture Reading--James 1:22

"BE YE DOERS OF THE WORD"
James 1:22

There is a story of a missionary in Korea who had a visit from a native convert who lived a hundred miles away, and who walked four days to reach the mission station. The pilgrim recited proudly, without a single mistake, the whole of the Sermon on the Mount. The missionary was delighted, but he felt that he ought to warn the man that memorizing was not enough--that it was necessary to practice the words as well as to memorize them.

The Korean's face lit up with happy smiles. "That is the way I learned it," he said. "I tried to memorize it, but it wouldn't stick. So I hit upon this plan--I would memorize a verse and then find a heathen neighbor of mine and practice it on him. Then I found it would stick."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Can you see where your reading the Bible has done someone good? Have you used your knowledge to witness for Jesus?

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

Scripture Reading--Daniel 3:17

"OUR GOD WHOM WE SERVE IS ABLE TO DELIVER US"
Daniel 3:17

A man was compelled one night to cross a wide, frozen river. Notwithstanding the assurances of those who were thoroughly familiar with the region and repeatedly crossed on the solid ice, the traveler feared to undertake the trip, but finally began to crawl his way over. When near the middle of the frozen stream he was startled by a sound in the distance, and caught sight of a man driving a heavy team of horses pulling a great load of pig iron; yet there was not the least sign of a crack in the ice.

Will the Word of God hold? Some fear to trust it. Why, man, it can't fail!

PRAYER THOUGHT

God can deliver us from any danger in life, if we but trust in Him. We should have no fear with Him on our side.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

Scripture Reading--Psalm 68:11

TURTLE CHRISTIANS

Professor J. A. Carlson, in "Your Body," speaks of hunger. A bird can go nine days without food. A man twelve days. A dog twenty days. A turtle five hundred days. A snake eight hundred days. A fish one thousand days. Insects twelve hundred days. But food is necessary for all of God's creatures. There are some "turtle" Christians, who go five hundred days without much real Bible meat. And many "bird" Christians, who go more than nine days without food. And not a few "fish" Christians, who go one thousand days without eating much of the honey and meat and bread of the Bible. Classify yourself!

PRAYER THOUGHT

A Christian can not go without the Word of God. It is the Bread of life for him.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

Scripture Reading--Matthew 8:8

THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

Away in a little town in the far south of Argentina one day a soldier, attracted by the sound of singing, entered a little mission hall and heard the Gospel preached. He stayed behind and spoke to the missionary who asked him if he was a Christian.

"Yes, I am," he replied.

"Where did you hear the Gospel?"

"From my mother."

"Where does she live?"

"She is a long way off, but will you come and see her? She has never

heard a preacher, and she will be glad to see you."

The missionary went, and found on a distant farm, where no missionary had ever been an old Christian woman. She told him that years before a colporteur, passing that way, had left a copy of the Word of God. She had read it, her eyes had been opened, and she had come to know Jesus Christ as her Saviour. She had had no teacher but the Spirit of God. That old woman was the mother of fourteen children. At the time the missionary visited her, the youngest was twelve years old, and she had led every one of those children to Christ through the reading of the Scriptures left by an unknown colporteur.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's Word spreads fast to people who don't know about Him. They are glad to hear it. Have you told someone about God's Word, the Bible?

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

Scripture Reading--1 Corinthians 9:9

TOO MUDDY FOR THE DANCE

One evening after a rain I was walking to the home of a Christian friend, where a few of us gathered weekly to have fellowship with our Lord.

I noticed my neighbor's son ahead of me and quickened my pace to catch up with him. He was going to a dance and was really dressed for the occasion. To save his shoes he had on a pair of high-topped rubbers. I tried to persuade him to come with me, but he would have none of it.

When we neared the gate he accidently slipped and fell into the mud. Since he could not very well go to the dance, he grudgingly went with me.

He was fidgety during the service and grumbled all the way home. His attitude changed, however, when several days later he learned that three of the toughest bullies were waiting for him at the dance. Rumor had it that they were armed with pipe wrenches, and were ready to get even with him for something he was supposed to have done.

This boy became firmly convinced that it was the hand of Jesus that kept him from attending that dance. He began to attend our meetings regularly, and soon was saved.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we sometimes wish to do things for Satan when God wants us to do things for Him? It is easy to be tempted.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

Scripture Reading--1 Peter 5:7

ONE FIVE PERCENT

A farmer one fall brought in a beautiful ear of corn, and showing it to his wife said, "A man deserves some credit for raising corn like that." Thought the corn: "God gave him soil to start with, and gave health to him and life to the seed, and while the farmer tended us intermittently, God never ceased His care. He taught my rootlets to push down and get life out of the soil. He guided my sprouts upward and to breathe in the air. He gave the sunshine and dew and rain and sent the wind to help me pollinize every growing kernel. In due time every kernel filled with milk and he changed my color to gold to show how he loved and cared for me." A famous teacher of agriculture has figured out that man does only five percent of the work on an ear of corn like that, and that God does ninety-five percent. So it is with wheat, or oats, or clover, or potatoes, or any other product of the soil.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God makes the sunshine and rain for plants and crops to grow. Man just plants the seeds.

Devotion used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: How often should one Christian forgive another who has treated him wrong?

Answer: Since Jesus gives an answer to a similar question, let's begin with this: "Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven" (Matthew 18:21, 22).

As I understand this Scripture, it does not make any difference how many times one Christian mistreats another. When he truly repents of the evil and asks forgiveness of his fellow Christian, the one who has suffered the wrong is obligated to God, who forgave him, to forgive his fellow Christian.

The following seems to teach the same truth. "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:30-32).

It says a great deal for us to forgive in the way God has forgiven us. For it was while we were at enmity with God the Father that He gave Christ for us. "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement" (Romans 5:6-11).

Continuing in line of thought, that we are obligated to continue to forgive Christians on the grounds that God forgave us and continues to forgive us as we repent and ask Him in the name of Christ for this forgiveness, John under the control of the Holy Spirit writes interestingly. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins,

(Continued on Page 8)

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from Page 7)

and to cleanse us from all unrighteous'' (1 John 1:9).

Here is something else of great importance Jesus said on this all important subject. ''For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses'' (Matthew 6:14, 15).

I surely want complete forgiveness for all my sins therefore I pray to be in a forgiving spirit and attitude at all times and seek forgiveness when at any time I feel that I have fallen short in this. ''Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil'' (Ephesians 4:26, 27); ''Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much'' (James 5:16); ''In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace'' (Ephesians 1:7).

George H. Sandison has the following to say in answering a similar question in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered:**

''Our duty is to cultivate a forgiving disposition. There is no doubt that when the wrongdoer repents, we ought to forgive him, even though it be seventy times seven times that he has offended. Toward the hardened offender who does not repent, we ought to feel more pity than animosity. It may be that for his own sake forgiveness should be withheld. It is good for some men that they should be taught by a sharp lesson that they must not misbelieve. But under all that, the Christian ought to exercise a kindly feeling toward the wrongdoers, ought not to be vindictive, and should be ready to forgive when he shows contrition. We believe that God loves the sinner while hating his sin, and we should try to be like him in that. We, who have done so much for which we hope God will forgive us, can surely afford to forgive those who have injured us. The man who has done the injury and is not penitent is in the greater need of forgiveness, though he is not entitled to it. We should pity him.''

''The Mountaintop Experience

Cragmont Bulletin

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, NC

CRAGMONT TREASURER'S REPORT

FEBRUARY , 1978

Balance Brought Forward February 1, 1978		$ 1,977.56
Receipts		
Albemarle District		
* Albemarle Woman's Auxiliary Convention	$ 19.00	
Albemarle Sunday School Convention	5.00	
Shiloh	11.85	
Union Chapel	16.72	$ 52.57
Cape Fear District		
Happiness Mission	61.00	
*Johnston Union Auxiliary	20.00	
Mrs. R. Y. Stephenson	25.00	
Palmer Memorial	48.72	
* Palmer Memorial Auxiliary	100.00	
* Saint Mary's Grove Auxiliary	25.00	
* Smyrna	20.00	299.72
Central District		
* Aspen Grove Auxiliary	15.40	
Aspen Grove Layman's League	25.00	
* Black Jack Auxiliary	70.49	
Edgewood	30.00	
* Free Union Auxiliary	5.00	
Friendship	500.00	
* Greenville Auxiliary	5.00	
* Howell Swamp Auxiliary	3.00	
Hull Road	250.00	
* Hull Road Auxiliary	25.00	
Owens Chapel Mrs. Daisy Owens	100.00	
Marlboro Shelby Bradshaw	30.00	
Reedy Branch	100.00	
Rocky Mount, First	55.00	
Rev. Larry Barbour	20.00	
Second Union	13.35	$1,247.24

Eastern District

Bethlehem	47.92	
Mrs. Mary E. Ward	10.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Milliard Edwards	25.00	
Susan Edwards	5.00	
* Bethlehem Auxiliary	5.00	
Dublin Grove	10.00	
Crab Point	15.00	
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	10.00	
* Holly Springs Auxiliary	20.00	
Macedonia	25.00	
* Northeast Auxiliary	10.00	
Piney Grove		
Mr. and Mrs. Larry J. Crumpler	10.00	
* Rock of Zion Auxiliary	9.00	
* Saint Mary's Auxiliary	300.00	
Sandy Plain	100.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Earl Thigpen	25.00	
* Sound View Auxiliary	15.00	
Snow Hill	181.00	
Third Union	47.00	
Smith's New Home	100.00	969.92

Pee Dee District

White Oak		
Thomas and Hattie Bright	200.00	200.00

Western District

Elwood Lane League	25.00	
Free Union, Nash County		
Rev. and Mrs. Lester Duncan	20.00	
Fremont		
Anonymous	1.00	
Mr. and Mrs. James P. Blow	5.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Proctor	10.00	
First Union	199.35	
Flood's Chapel	5.00	
Little Rock	200.00	
Milbournie	23.00	
Mount Zion, Nash County	75.00	
* Mount Zion, Wilson County	25.00	
* Pleasant Grove Auxiliary	20.00	
Pleasant Hill	100.00	
* Pleasant Plain Auxiliary	20.00	
Saint Mary's	250.00	
Sherron Acres	100.00	
* Sherron Acres Auxiliary in Memory of Mrs. Mozelle Bennett		
* Spring Hill Auxiliary	20.00	
Unity, Durham		
Trinity	25.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Nolton Pounds	25.00	$1,248.35

* Given through North Carolina State Auxiliary Treasurer

Others:

Right Deposits for 1978 Camp at $25	200.00	
Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Balance from 1977 Camp	163.13	
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, phone calls	1.83	
Christian Service Fund	132.64	
North Carolina Department of Revenue, Sales Tax Rebate	506.77	
Mount Olive College Student Fellowship	51.00	
State Youth Convention, Tabernacle repairs	150.35	
McRoy Insurance Agency, Rebate	85.00	1,290.72
Total Receipts		5,308.52
Withdrawal from Savings		2,936.00
Total for Which to Account		$10,222.08

Disbursements

Operational Expenses	$ 294.91	
Glenn Watson and Son Equipment Company, for tractor	2,020.00	
John E. Reid, Balance of original fee	916.00	
Douglas Skinner, Salary for February and March	1,600.00	
Transfer of Funds to Savings Account	3,162.56	
Total Disbursements		$ 7,993.47
Balance on Hand March 1, 1978		$ 2,228.61

Earmarked Funds

General Fund	
Main Building Fund	51,875.70
Total in Bank	$54,104.31

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer
Route 1
Sims, North Carolina 27880

CHRIST IS

STILL THE

ANSWER!

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"

mission work...

at home and abroad.

Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
Director—Treasurer
P. O. Box 979
Goldsboro, N. C. 27530

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
Fayetteville, N. C. 28305

Reported by C. F. Bowen,
Editor of COMMAND

A Talent Service for Foreign Missions

We've had Walk-A-Thons, money-on-Christmas-tree programs, gospel sings, and many other types of services--all for foreign missions, and the gifts to missions have been most gratifying.

But Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Wayne County, North Carolina, has topped them all with a new idea that your church will surely want to try.



Elizabeth Scott, Doris Wheeler, Vivian Adams, and Mary Kennedy do their take-off on "The Gossipers," a popular Nashville-oriented TV show, "Hee Haw."

It was called a "Talent Display for Foreign Missions," and was sponsored by the Loyalty Class of the church whose fine teacher is Mrs. Esther Grantham.

The word went out that this was an opportunity for any person, or groups of persons, to "display" whatever talent he thought he had. Ben Casey, master of ceremonies said, "Some of you have always wanted to do something in church but nobody has ever asked you to do it. Now is your chance; let us know what you want to do and you can do it."

The response was overwhelming, to say the least, and about fifty took part.



Scott Williams, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Williams, sings a novelty song with appropriate gestures

More than 20 different "acts" were rehearsed and rehearsed again. All ages, from very small children to persons in their seventies, took part. Presentations ranged from highly inspirational singing to some of the funniest skits you have ever seen. The pastor, C. F. Bowen, remarked, "You wouldn't believe it! From out of what might be thought of as obscurity and insignificance, emerged some of the most brilliant and spontaneous talent ever witnessed in this church."

The night was filled with laughter, tears, and inspiration. Interspersing the various acts with humorous and timely anecdotes, Ben Casey moved the program along skillfully--a program which lasted nearly three hours with very few getting tired.

The outcome? It was amazing. A total of $1,375 was received in the free will offering! This amount was exactly enough to purchase some needed property in the Philippines to be used as a training school for pastors on our mission field there.

We believe Stoney Creek Church experienced a kind of revival--certainly a revival of fellowship and unity--which ran over into the next day's services, bringing several to the altar for rededication and membership.

How does the idea appeal to you? COMMAND will be happy to send you details for such service in your church for foreign missions. Write for them today.



The Grand Finale, showing the entire cast of about fifty gathered at the altar.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For April 16

THE COST OF CONVICTION

Lesson Text: Acts 7:2, 44-53, 58
Memory Verse: Acts 7:60

I. INTRODUCTION

A group of prospective missionaries were being instructed in the practical aspects of their labor—inoculations, passports, visas, transportation, supplies, housing. The subject of physical danger was present. "You must be prepared to die at any time after you reach the field," said the instructor.

"We died before we started," one responded for the group.

One who, like Stephen, is faithful unto death, does not postpone death to the end of the way. He dies to self and to sin when he denies himself to take up the Cross and follow Christ (Matthew 16:24). His very baptism is the symbol and completion of that death (Romans 6:1-11). He is crucified with Christ in order that Christ may live in him (Galatians 2:20). "If we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: if we suffer, we shall also reign with him" (2 Timothy 2:11, 12).

It is true even in this age that the faith may bring one into persecution and may even result in the loss of life. The one who has died to self "before he started" will not fail even the extreme tests of his faith at the end of the way.

Last week we studied the arrest and trial of the apostles for their continued preaching of the gospel of Christ. At the conclusion of the trial they were physically beaten and again prohibited to preach. But physical punishment could not lessen the conviction of these men. As they left the council chamber, they rejoiced to be "counted worthy to suffer shame for (Jesus') name." Furthermore, "daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ" (Acts 5:42).

Soon a problem arose within the ranks of the disciples regarding the distribution of daily food to the needy, which included especially the widows. Seven men were chosen to oversee the distribution of this benevolence. One of the seven was Stephen, a young man "full of faith and of the Holy Ghost" (6:5). Soon he was doing far more than this, working miracles and preaching the wisdom of God among the people (vv. 8-10). None could resist the power of his words (v. 10).

Unable to answer the teaching of Stephen, his critics sought to destroy the teacher. False witnesses were bribed to testify against him, and he was dragged before the council.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Today we study about one of the first deacons, the great work he did for God, and how he became the first Christian martyr. Next Sunday we will study about Philip and how he carried the gospel to Samaria. These first deacons were truly men filled with the Holy Ghost.

B. Our printed text today deals with the message that Stephen gave to the Sanhedrin. He preached Jesus Christ to them from the Old Testament. One cannot read this sermon without being impressed with this man's courage. It is important that God's messengers have courage.

C. Many people today would look at the early death of Stephen and say, "What a waste!" But was it really? Young Saul of Tarsus saw the man die and apparently was so impressed by him that he later surrendered his own life to Christ. If Stephen had not given his life as a Christian martyr, we are not sure that Paul would have been saved. Is any cost too great to pay for the salvation of a soul?

D. On the day Stephen was killed, Satan must have had a wonderful time. He must have felt that the young church was frightened and that this would end the preaching of the gospel. But he did not reckon on the power and plan of God. As they scattered for fear of their lives, they continued to preach the gospel and more and more people were saved.

E. The Lord had told the disciples that they were to go to the ends of the earth with the message of the gospel. Apparently they had been satisfied to stay in Jerusalem. So far as we know, they had no plan to go any further. But God has a way of accomplishing His work. He allowed persecution to come to the church; this caused the gospel to be preached in other places.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. God gave specific details concerning the construction of the place of worship. Faithfulness required complete obedience to the specifications. Deep sacrifice was also necessary to gather the needed resources to provide the building materials.

B. A congregation's meeting place is certainly a house of God to the extent that it is devoted to His service and use. But a Christian's own house should also be God's house in that sense. Obviously the church building is not the place where God lives exclusive of all other places on earth.

C. Because of our sin, we were separated from God. We were unable to discover Him; therefore, He had to reveal himself to us. Faith is our response to this self-revelation of God.

—Selected



by Nancy Matthews

story corner

THE RUNAWAY BLIND MAN

KALEB was careful to stay behind the weeds beside the road so no one could see him.

He heard the jingle of a coin against the pewter cup and the movement the old man made to quickly slip the coin from the cup to his pocket. If the rumor was correct that many people would pass this way today, he should do very well indeed.

The boy could not remember a time the old man had not been around. Mama said one day when she was a little girl he just showed up in the village alone, his white cane tap-tap-tapping his way clear before him. Her father had invited him to supper and he had been in the village ever since.

Grandfather had offered him a home, but the old man, even with his blindness, was very independent. He lived in a shack down by the river and managed to make a meager living doing odd jobs with his hands.

No one knew what family Bartimaeus belonged to. No one knew if he had a family.

Bartimaeus did not want anyone to help him or to feel sorry for him. He had no complaints. He was happy in his own way.

Kaleb liked to visit him. Bartimaeus could be very entertaining with amusing tales about incidents happening because of his blindness. Like the time he came home and sat where his chair was supposed to be. A well meaning village lady had done a good deed by cleaning his house and rearranging his furniture while he was away. It took days before he finally got his few belongings back in place.

And like the time he walked out without his cane flap into a stack of wood a neighbor had slipped in without his knowledge.

"Before I finally managed to scramble out of that woodpile," Bartimaeus recalled, "every stick of it hit me on the head twice."

"Don't do me any favors," he kept telling his well meaning neighbors.

Bartimaeus had some strange unheard of notions which Kaleb attributed to his blindness. But if his notion today was parading in an arena of strange notions, his would surely win first prize.

Kaleb could not understand why a blind man had rather starve than beg for himself, yet he would use his blindness as a pretense for begging for the widow, Sarah.

Begging in itself was degrading enough, but to beg under false pretenses was just too terrible for words. Kaleb wanted no part of it. But Mama had insisted. "With all the strange people coming by, he needs a friend close by," she said. "A robber could be in the group. It wouldn't be the first time."

Shucks, he thought. Mama always has fanciful notions. She's afraid of her own shadow!

Kaleb settled down behind the weeds. He may catch a glimpse of this Jesus fellow, the carpenter from Galilee who was supposed to be doing all these magical tricks, like making people well. If this Jesus could make old man Bartimaeus see, now that would be magic! But that kind of magic only happens in bedtime stories.

Uncle Josiah had come home from Jericho with exciting tales about this man. Jesus was on His way here with a great following. He should pass this very spot sometime today.

So something **was** going to happen after all in this quiet out of the way village. Wonder why Jesus would come here when He could go to a big city like Jerusalem? All this going to happen and I'm stuck with an old blind man, Kaleb fumed quietly.

Kaleb came out of his wonderings and heard voices.

"Really?" Bartimaeus asked.

"Sure," said a traveler. "He's on his way now. You'll probably see him coming over the hill in a few minutes."

"I doubt that," Bartimaeus answered and jingled the coin in his cup. "Have you forgotten, I can't see a wink?" Then he laughed, his deep, deep chuckle filling the air, bringing a smile to Kaleb's face.

The traveler laughed aloud and moved on leaving a quietness behind, a quietness filled with suspense and expectations.

The noise of the crowd reached them before Kaleb could see them.

"Where are you, boy?" Bartimaeus demanded in a strangely hard voice.

"Here I am, Sir," Kaleb answered,

not a little frightened.

"Go away! Go on home! I don't need anybody to baby sit with me."

"But, Sir—Mama told me to stay."

"You may go. I will explain to your mother. Get on now!"

It was just what Kaleb wanted. To get away. To be untied from the old man so he could get in on the action. He wanted to be free to see the carpenters and his magic tricks.

"Thank you, Sir!" Kaleb answered, and saluted the old man. Then he laughed.

"Why are you laughing, boy?" demanded Bartimaeus.

Kaleb was puzzled at the tone of Bartimaeus' voice. He was acting very strangely.

"I was laughing because I saluted you, then realized you couldn't see me," Kaleb apologized. "What's it like, Sir? Not being able to see, I mean?"

"I don't know the difference, son," Bartimaeus answered in a voice almost like Kaleb remembered. Then he went on wistfully, "You see, I don't know what seeing is."

The crowd came nearer. Suddenly Bartimaeus became agitated. "Get on, boy! I thought I told you to leave!"

Kaleb left. He was free!

Then he began wondering about the blind man. Why had he changed so? What was wrong? Just what if a robber came like Mama had said? With misgivings, Kaleb gave up his freedom and made his way quietly back to where the man sat with the cup.

Kaleb was sitting a few feet from him when the crowd neared. Walking in front was the carpenter. A man walked on either side of him, but somehow Kaleb knew Jesus. There was something about him that was different. It may have been his eyes. Or his expression. But now he looked tired.

"Jesus?" Kaleb heard Bartimaeus say quietly as if getting the feel of it.

Then Bartimaeus stretched out his hands as if his hands knew which one was Jesus. "Jesus?" he said louder. "Help me. Please!" his voice full of despair.

As long as Kaleb had known Bartimaeus, he had never heard him beg. Now he, who despised would be helpers, was asking for help.

"Help me, please?" Bartimaeus repeated in a strangely hoarse voice, his eyelids, now squinched over sightless eyes, could not contain the tears that oozed from them.

Kaleb could wait no longer.

He ran out into the road and to the front of the crowd.

Jesus paused.

"Move on, Son," one of the men said gently. "Jesus is tired. He needs somewhere to rest."

"Could I speak to you?" Kaleb asked in a whisper.

"What do you wish to say?" Jesus asked and stooped so the boy could whisper in his ear.

The crowd became angry at the delay.

Jesus straightened, put one arm around Kaleb and with the other motioned for the crowd to be quiet.

Together they walked over to Bartimaeus where he sat with his arms outstretched, one hand still holding the pewter cup which was dangling, forgotten.

"Help me, Jesus," he rasped again, his face distorted.

Jesus stood for a moment looking up into the cloudless sky, then He took Bartimaeus' hand in His.

"Bartimaeus, today you shall see."

Bartimaeus sat for a minute as his face calmed.

"Open your eyes, Bartimaeus."

The old man opened his eyes for an instant, then slammed them shut again.

"Open your eyes," Jesus said again.

"But seeing hurts!" Bartimaeus cried.

"You didn't have time to see," Jesus answered, His voice tender, as He laughed gently. "It's because your eyes are not accustomed to the light. Open them this time slowly," He instructed and put both His hands beside the man's eyes, shading them from the sun. "Slowly now."

A smile seemed to touch Bartimaeus from his head to his feet. He was more alive, younger seeming, as he faced Jesus and the light of day for the first time in his life.

"Thank you, Jesus," he said as he bounded to his feet and embraced Jesus.

"There's someone here I want you to meet," Jesus said and motioned to a woman in the crowd.

Bartimaeus was busy looking, seeing for the first time the colors around him, the people, the trees further down the road, the sky. He did not notice the woman come forward slowly, uncertainly, almost afraid.

She stood in front of him looking with question from Jesus back to Bartimaeus, then slowly began a smile of recognition.

"Bartimaeus?" she asked.

"Abigail?" he questioned, recognizing her voice.

"My brother! My long lost brother!" she exclaimed. "Why did you leave us? We have been searching for years!"

"Don't you know, Abigail? I had to. I had to get away from the family to make my own way. You meant well, all of you, but you treated me like an invalid!"

"Bartimaeus! Bartimaeus!" she scolded gently, "your greatest handicap

(Continued on Page 14)

Story Corner

(Continued from Page 14)

has always been your independence! Now you can come back home. Jesus has made you well, you can see!''

''But I have friends here,'' the man argued. ''Kaleb? Which one is Kaleb?''

Kaleb stepped up proudly and saluted.

''Is that what you call a salute?'' Bartimaeus asked.

''Yes, Sir.''

''I have a lot to learn,'' Bartimaeus said. ''After a visit to my family, will you help me? Please?''

Now when Bartimaeus was no longer blind, he was asking Kaleb for help.

''Yes, Sir!'' Kaleb exclaimed and saluted again.

''Mr. Jesus?'' Kaleb asked, ''will you stay with us? We'll have fun. Me and you, and Bartimaeus, while he's learning what everything is.''

Jesus put His hand on the young boy's shoulder. ''I must be going, Son. Bartimaeus is going to do very well with you for a teacher.''

The carpenter turned and, with a sprightly step now, led the crowd past. Bartimaeus, with one arm around Kaleb, and the other around his newly reunited sister, was smiling as he watched the procession.

A LONESOME YEAR

In Memory of Thomas (Tommy) E. Parker

by Mrs. Tommy Parker

The Lord saw fit for us to meet in 1969. At first, I didn't know if you were the one the Lord had planned to be my companion. As I prayed for the Lord to send me the right Christian man, God began to let our friendship and love grow. By September of 1969, we began to get serious and things began to fall in place.

When we first started dating, you were doing some things that you felt weren't pleasing to the Lord. After you started dating me (and hearing sermons every Sunday from my father), you rededicated your life. You were faithful in driving 90 miles every weekend to be with me. As the months passed, we began to realize that God had planted the seed of love in our hearts for Him and for each other. We both looked forward to seeing one another and worshiping God together over the weekends.

In June of 1970, we were united in marriage. From that day until the Lord called you home, our love for God and each other grew. We had many good times together and shared one another's burdens and problems. I can remember the good times we had together singing, praying and reading God's Word. Whenever we had a problem, we always talked it over, prayed about it and God helped us through trying times. I will always remember the many times you were there to encourage me and others along the way. You kept the faith and set an example before others.

In July of 1975, I had to go into the hospital for surgery. During the operation, complications set in. What was suppose to be a simple operation turned out to be a 4 month stay in the hospital. You were there by my side every day to encourage and lift me up. You always came into the room with a smile on your face and a song on your lips. You stood by my side during my good and bad days. Without your help and encouragement, I would have given up many times. Without the prayers and support of you, my family and friends, I would not have made it. You made me realize that ''All things work together for good to them that love the Lord.'' During this time of sickness and unemployment, God always supplied our needs. For your faithfulness as a husband during these trying times, I will always be grateful.

In April of 1975, you became sick. After having tests and an examination, you were told you had leukemia and had 2-5 years to live. That didn't dampen your spirit or cause you to question God. You had faith to believe God would take care of you. You were more determined to work for the Lord and win lost ones to your Saviour. You witnessed to any and every one that would or would not listen to you. Even though you were told to rest and slow down, you felt it necessary to keep working for the Lord until your time came to leave this world and to go to a better place.

With the help of your doctor and medication, things were kept under control until January, 1977. At that time, you were hospitalized for one week for blood transfusions. After coming home and staying for almost two weeks, you were put back into the hospital. Many prayers were prayed in your behalf. I had prayed that when the time came for you to go, if it be His will, not to let you suffer, but fall asleep in the arms of Jesus. After 5½ weeks of confinement, pain and suffering, the Lord let you fall asleep on Friday, March 18. He had taken you out of your pain, suffering and worries of this world. You entered into a place you had been longing to go and have peace. I did not question why because I knew it was God's will that He take you home to be with Him.

During this year, your friends, family and I have missed you in more ways than one. I have longed to have you hold me and tell me ''I love you,'' but it wasn't God's will. I have missed hearing you sing in church and play your guitar. Most of all, we have all missed your smiling face and warm personality. But I'm looking forward to seeing you one day. I pray that God will use me, that I'll be a witness for Him, and one day I'll be able to see you again. I thank the Lord for the wonderful 6 years and 8 months that we were married and enjoyed serving the Lord together. I know that you are happy, singing and praising God. I can almost hear you now. Thank God for friends and loved ones who prayed for both of us during our illnesses.

It has been hard for me during this past year, but God has blessed me and given me strength and comfort when I needed it. I pray that God will always bless me with the wonderful memory I have of you as I walk this lonely way. I thank God for having had the privilege of walking by your side for the years the Lord saw fit for us to be together.

Your loving wife,
Iris

NEWS & NOTES

evival At
ree Union

Revival services will be held at Free nion Free Will Baptist Church near Valstonburg, April 9-14 at 7:30 p. m. he Rev. Earl Glenn, pastor of First Free Vill Baptist Church in Goldsboro, will be he visiting evangelist. Preceding the ospel message there will special music ach evening by the church choirs and thers. A very cordial invitation is exended to everyone to attend. The Rev. . L. Patrick is pastor of Free Union hurch.

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weet Gum Grove Church
nnounces Revival

The members of the Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Stokes, are ooking forward to a week of revival ervices beginning at 7:30 Monday ight, April 10, going through Saturday ight, April 15, with the Rev. Jerry Rowe f Gum Swamp church as the evangelist. There will be special music each night by visiting groups and the local church. The pastor, the Rev. Franklin Brinson, will assist in these services. A nursery will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival Now in Progress
At Ayden Church

Revival services are now in progress at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, which began April 3, and will continue through April 5. Services began each evening at 7:30 with the Rev. N. B. Barrow of Snow Hill as the guest evangelist. Special singing is being provided nightly. The pastor, the Rev. C. H. Overman, and members of the church invite all to attend the remaining services.

Revival in Progress
Peace Church

Revival services are in progress at Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, which began April 3, and will continue through April 7. The Rev. Joseph Ingram from Goldsboro is the evangelist. Services begin each night at 7:30. The pastor, the Rev. L. B. Manning, and the church membership cordially invite everyone to attend and worship the Lord in these services.

Revival at
British Chapel Church

Spring revival at British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Kinston, will be observed April 10-14 with services beginning nightly at 7:30.

The Rev. Dwight Gay of Living Waters church will be the guest evangelist. Special music will be provided each evening. Everyone is invited to attend.

Pleasant Plain Church
Announces Revival

Revival services are scheduled for April 10-14 at the Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Selma. The Rev. Charles Lynwood Renfrow, pastor of Fremont church, will be the guest evangelist. Each service will be preceded by prayer sessions and services will begin at 7:30 p. m. There will be special music each evening. A very cordial welcome is extended to everyone to come and worship during these services. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser.

Riverside Church
Spring Revival

Riverside Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Princeton, near Goldsboro, will hold its spring revival beginning Sunday night, April 9, and continuing through Friday night, April 14. The Rev. Luby Tyner, pastor of the church, will be the speaker. Sunday night services will be at 7 p. m. and services will begin at 7:30 each night starting on Monday. The pastor and the members of the church cordially invite everyone to attend these services.

Friendship Church, Middlesex
Announces Revival

Revival will be held at the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, in Johnston County, April 9-14 at 8 p. m. The Rev. Lloyd Hargis, pastor of Trinity church of Clayton, will be the guest evangelist. The Rev. Dwight Chapman, pastor of the church, and the church members invite everyone to attend.

Willis Wilson, Evangelist
Milbournie Church

The Rev. Willis Wilson of Winterville will be the guest evangelist during revival services at the Milbournie Free Will Baptist Church, near Wilson, during the week of April 10-14. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The church invites everyone to attend these services.

Revival at
Ormondsville Church

Revival services will begin April 10 and continue through April 14, at Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church, located just off Highway 903 Ormondsville. The Rev. Gary Bailey, pastor of Elm Grove church will be the guest evangelist. Services begin at 7:30 each evening. Special music will be featured nightly. The pastor, the Rev. Jack Mayo, invites everyone to attend.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?



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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Some preaching brings on storm clouds and hides the light of eternal hope.

Sometimes we sit on the edge of our pews, waiting anxiously for the sun to break through. Even the last "Amen" leaves us unsatisfied.

The cloud cover—how oppressing!

APRIL 12, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



Tommy Manning
Editor

Editorial . . .

Cover Photo by John Taylor

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THE CLOUD COVER

(Reprinted from THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, September 2, 1970.)

Somewhere from out of the clouds come high-sounding Sunday speeches, filled with ambiguous words and phrases, adding only to the confusion and misunderstanding of a poor, simpleminded fellow trying to reach out and grasp the truth that will make him free. Somewhere a preacher stands behind his sacred desk, berobed and bespectacled, and befuddled in his utterance of theology. He makes his sermons so intellectual that the average person can never understand what he's really trying to say.

This preacher is so wrapped up (or warped up, as the case may be) in the tenses and progressions of Greek or Hebrew verbs and their allusions and connections, that he loses the real purpose of his being there. Surely he is to enlighten the people; but often in his attempt to make everything clear, the real, important message is hidden in the mighty exposition. For the classroom this is fine; in the worship service . . . well, that's something else again.

What we really want to hear; what the world needs to hear, is more about Jesus—that He loves us and wants to help us.

Most of us are so simpleminded that we still enjoy hearing the simple lessons that Jesus taught in His simple manner. Most of us are average people: we don't want to be preached "over"; we want to be preached "to." We don't want to plow through the clouds to get where we're going. Also, we have no more sense than to expect the preacher to believe what he preaches and to live what he preaches. We don't want a hypocrite in the pulpit who sets a good example only when he has an audience! Though we have no argument with good speaking and ten-cent words, we don't want learned eloquence as a substitute for sincere, heart preaching.

Oh, the clouds that cover us. Much speaking is done about secondaries, about trivialities. In our search for wisdom we often confound ourselves. We place our values in the wrong places. The world is dying in sin, and we offer a solution; but the solution becomes too hard under the burden of our words.

We need wisdom, sure; but wisdom which stems from a little common sense. This is something laughed at and sneezed over, but nevertheless, Jesus taught most of His profound lessons in parables, easily understood and easily listened to. He used common sense in every situation. So must we.

Mighty preaching indeed—that preaching that brings on storm clouds —that preaching that hides the light of eternal hope. Sometimes, as we sit on the edges of our pews, waiting anxiously for the sun to break through, we sigh with disappointment as the last "Amen" leaves us unsatisfied. The cloud cover is too oppressing.

APRIL 12, 1978
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COLLEGE HALL MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by W. Burkette Raper, President

THE Board of Trustees has determined the next building on the new campus of Mount Olive College will be College Hall, a building being designed to serve the College, the Church and the Community.

At its meeting on February 14, 1978, the Board authorized the architectual firm of Hayes, Howell and Associates of Southern Pines to proceed with working drawings and the Board was advised plans would be ready for bids by early fall. Estimated cost of College Hall is $1.5 million and the Board plans to award contracts as soon as adequate funds are available through gifts and pledges.

College Hall and the College

God gave us our bodies just as He did our minds, and in Christian education, students should be taught to care for their bodies as temples for the Spirit of God. We live on this earth only as long as our physical bodies can sustain life, and for that reason the maintenance of good health is a spiritual duty. College Hall will provide Mount Olive College for the first time with adequate facilities for an athletic, physical education and health center.

Physical Education—With this building the College can expand its instructional program to include the necessary courses for students who wish to major in physical education.

Inter-collegiate Sports—especially basketball. The College now has varsity basketball teams for both men and women but our athletic program is seriously handicapped by our having to use three different public school gymnasiums **when they are available**.

Intra-mural Sports—Many students like to participate in sports even though they do not have the time or interest to compete in inter-collegiate athletics, and College Hall will provide a broad range of opportunities for the entire student body.

Health Center and Recreation—College Hall will also provide students and personnel with facilities for physical health activities including gymnastics, physical therapy, and indoor games.

Enrollment—One of the objectives of Mount Olive College is to double its enrollment from 350 to 700 students. A modern athletic and recreation center will be a strong attraction to prospective students and will help the College to build enrollment.

Accreditation—The full accreditation of Mount Olive College by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires that the College have "Physical resources, including building, equipment, and campus . . . adequate to serve the needs of the institution in relation to its stated purpose, program, and activities." A physical education and health center is essential for this purpose, and the next evaluation of Mount Olive College by the Association will be in the spring of 1981.

Senior College Status—The North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists in annual session on September 14, 1977, went on record as asking the Trustees of Mount Olive College to formulate definite plans whereby Mount Olive might become a four-year college. College Hall is one of the absolute requirements for this step to be taken.

College Hall and the Free Will Baptist Church

College Hall can serve as a home for the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists whenever the Convention wishes to use this facility. In recent years the Convention has increased its attendance to a size beyond the capacity of a local church to accomodate it with the results that it has been necessary to rent facilities, and often these buildings have not been suitable for our purposes and kind of meetings. College Hall can also accomodate any other church-related function for which a large seating capacity is required.

The building will be air-conditioned and equipped with suitable rest rooms, adequate parking, good acoustics, rooms for committees and display space, and when the College Union is built, College Hall will be convenient to the campus food services.

With the addition of College Hall, Mount Olive will be prepared to offer a wide range of weekend and summer activities under Christian auspices for our young people, including basketball clinics and other sports and recreational programs.

College Hall and the Community

The College is an integral part of the Mount Olive Community, and it is anticipated that College Hall will provide services to the community similar to those now being provided by the College Library and the College food services.

Major programs of interest to the entire area can be staged in College Hall including athletic tournaments, religious crusades, political rallies and large community events.

The use of College Hall by the Church, the College and the Community will bring large numbers of people to Mount Olive

(Continued on Page 5)



SUNDAY, APRIL 16

Scripture Reading—1 Chronicles 5:20

WHY WORRY?

Hannah Whithall Smith tells about a man sliding down a rope into a well. He supposed the rope to be of ample length, but to his dismay he reached the end of it without touching the bottom of the well with his feet. He tried in vain to climb up the rope, and dared not let go for fear of being dashed to pieces. He held on as long as he could, and when utterly exhausted let the rope slip from his grasp. He fell—just three inches!

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should be afraid to let Jesus go for fear that we will fall deep into sin and obey the devil.

MONDAY, APRIL 17

Scripture Reading—Psalm 17:14

A PEG-LEG CONFEDERATE PROMISES NOT TO DANCE!

It was during the first pastorate of the late Dr. R. E. Neighbour that this humorous incident occurred: The scene of the incident was the First Baptist Church, Americus, Georgia. Preaching on worldly amusements, the preacher closed his message with an invitation to those who danced to come down the aisle, and thus publicly declare "quits" so far as dancing was concerned. Only ONE responded to Dr. Neighbour's plea: A peg-leg Confederate veteran, who couldn't dance a jig if he wanted to!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Are you like the people were when the preacher gave the invitation here? Do you stand back from Jesus? Are you slow to answer Him?

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

Scripture Reading—John 1:10

WHAT DETERMINES THE WEIGHT

Sir Robert Ball, the great astronomer, said that a man who carries a sack of corn on earth could as easily carry six sacks of corn on a globe the size of the moon. But in a world as vast as the sun, even to pull out a watch from a pocket would be to tug at a weight of five or six pounds. It would be impossible to lift an arm, and if once a man were to lie down there, he could never get up again. So, in the spiritual realm, the weight of our burdens depends upon the attraction of earth. If the world is all to us, alas, how true it is that its burdens crush us!

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should not let the burdens of this world crush us with its cares. We should turn our faces to God and trust Him.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 33:11

REAL LOVE

A little boy declared that he loved his mother "with all his strength." He was asked to explain what he meant by "with all his strength." He said: "Well, I'll tell you. You see, we live on the fourth floor of this tenement; and there's no elevator, and the coal is kept down in the basement. Mother is busy all the time, and she isn't very strong; so I see to it that the coal hod is never empty. I lug the coal up four flights of stairs all by myself. And it's a pretty big hod. It takes all my strength to get it up there. Now, isn't that loving my mother with all my strength?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus loved us with all His strength when He carried the heavy Cross burdened with our sins. That Cross must have been very heavy!

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 14:5

THE GENERAL SPEAKERS

I cannot attempt to describe what I owe to the Lord Jesus Christ, nor what He has meant to me throughout my army career (and longer). The knowledge that it is to Him that I owe my eternal salvation has given me a peace which nothing has been able to disturb, while the companionship and help which He has consistently been ready to give me, have been very real and very wonderful.

I would like to bear witness that His help is a most practical and wonderful thing, and I could not contemplate life and its innumerable problems without it. It is a grand thing to be able to take all one's problems to Him, since He promises to give wisdom and direction to those who ask Him. I do most humbly but earnestly commend Him as Saviour and Lord.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What can you stand and say for Jesus? Can you witness for Him? Can you tell others about Him?

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

Scripture Reading—Psalm 19:1

A DOCTOR WHO "WORKED WITH GOD"

In a large metropolitan hospital there is a surgeon who insists upon having a moment alone before entering the operating room. Because of his great skill many of the younger doctors wondered if there might be a relationship between his success and this unusual habit. When one of the interns put the question to the surgeon, he answered: "Yes, there is a relationship, a very close one. Before each operation I ask the great Physician to be with me, to guide my hands and their work. There have been times when I didn't know what to do next, and then came a power to go on—power which I know comes from God. I would not think of performing an operation without asking God's help." The surgeon's story spread throughout the country, and one day a father brought his little daughter to the hospital, insisting that the doctor

who "worked with God" should operate on his child.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus is the Great Physician. Isn't it great to know that a physician who cares for you believes in God also?

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

Scripture Reading—Mark 16:15

ONLY ONE LETTER'S DIFFERENCE

"Just one letter of the alphabet makes all the difference between us now," said a recently converted young woman to an unsaved friend, who could not understand the great change that had come over her. "You love the world," she said, "and I love the Word."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it funny how one letter can make a difference? The word WORLD makes people sin and obey the things of Satan, but the word WORD means the love of God.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 3)

who will add to the local economy through the patronage of business firms.

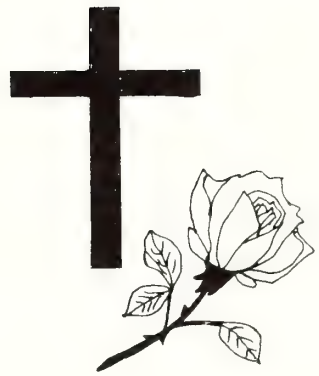
Family and Church Recreation

It is envisioned that special provisions will be made for programs of recreation for family and Church groups.

Plan of Finance

A plan is now being formulated for securing gifts and pledges to underwrite the cost of College Hall. This plan was ready by March 15 and will be announced through THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, the College Newsletter and other media; in the meanwhile we ask for the prayers and support of all our friends.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

About four years ago as I was in critical condition with heart problems, I was asked the question, "Are you a Christian?" I could not answer that question in the affirmative, even though I had belonged to a church for many years and had attended regularly.

As a result of the question, I began to take a good look at my relationship with God; and I found some very shocking revelations. I made a list using the teachings of Jesus; such as, my love for God, my worship of God over the interests of life, forgiveness, love for my neighbor, love for my enemies. Then I asked myself: "Do I judge other people?" "Do I believe God's Word, even though I could not understand it?" You know what? I could not answer any of the questions. This really got my attention and especially when I read the Scripture where Christ says: "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).

At that point, I fell to my knees and gave my life totally to Jesus. He has given me the ability to love everyone, to forgive everyone, not to judge but to LOVE, not to condemn, but to have compassion. He has given me t Goldsboro for Jesus, freedom to worship God in spirit and in truth, purpose and direction for my life, and the assurance of a heavenly home with Him throughout eternity.

NAME WITHHELD
Goldsboro

In early March the gentleman who wrote this beautiful testimony of faith was called by our Heavenly Father to be with Him throughout eternity.

Churches and Ministers Available

Austin Carter announces that he is available for pastor or supply work. Any church that wants his services may contact him at Faison, N. C. 28341.

Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Aurora, will be in need of a pastor beginning in July. They request services on first, second, third, and fourth Sunday mornings. For further information contact Mildred G. Brothers, Route 1, Box 365, Aurora, North Carolina 27806.

A Christian Home for Boys and Girls

free will baptist children's home

MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

NEW POOL BEGUN!

Construction on our new pool has begun! Gifts from many individuals, churches, and civic clubs have already come in. You, too, might want to consider helping us with this project. The cost of the new 30 x 60 foot pool will be $22,000. The contractor is donating $5,000 worth of labor in order to keep the cost at the low price quoted above.

STATUTE STANDARDS

In 1976 the State of North Carolina reissued what is known as the North Carolina General Statute 110-57, the Interstate Compact on Placement of Children. What this statute does in simple terms is to prohibit child-caring agencies which have not yet met certain State Department requirements from receiving for placement or placing children outside North Carolina.

Our Children's Home does not meet the standard because of our non-compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. As a result our Home can no longer accept children from another state. Many people throughout the Eastern part of our country and from many states have supported the Home and may wish at some time to place children with the Home; however, as a result of this ruling this will not be possible.

Legal counsel has studied this matter and has assured us that the law applies to us and that there are penalties provided in the law for failure to abide by the law.

In the February meeting of the Board of Directors of the Children's Home, the Board felt that all our people should be aware of this statute both those outside the state and within the state. Paul admonished us to abide by the laws of our government and abide by them we must. We ask that if anyone has further questions about this matter to please write, call, or visit the Home and discuss it with the Director.

EASTWOOD CHURCH VISITS



Left to right: The Rev. W. D. Lassiter and J. Stewart Humphrey, Executive Director of Children's Home.

Members of Eastwood Free Will Baptist Church of Fayetteville visited the Home recently. There was a bus load of adults and children, along with their pastor, the Rev. W. O. Lassiter. Brother Lassiter presented the Home with a check for $701.33. The group toured the campus and enjoyed a picnic lunch. We salute you, Eastwood church of Fayetteville, and may God bless your ministry to the Fayetteville community.



Eastwood Church visits Home.

SPRING CLEANING UNDERWAY



Smith Cottage residents

Mrs. Overman and the residents of Smith Cottage get ready for spring. All of our cottage families are busy cleaning up their yards getting ready for our summertime visitors. Write or call us and plan to visit the Children's Home this summer.

DELMA HAS APPENDICITIS

Delma Gay had appendicitis last week. He's home now and doing fine. Along with Delma's hospital bill and a lot of flu, we've had an expensive winter, medically speaking. We would have far more medical expenses than we do if not for the fact that the doctors of Carolina General Clinic see our children without charge, as does Dr. Thomas of Zebulon.

HELP SEND CHILD TO CAMP

The recent warm weather has brought much activity to the Children's Home campus. It has provided an opportunity for the children to get outdoors to play and help in the cleanup of the campus. Everyone has been working together to prepare the campus for spring and summer.

The arrival of summer brings outdoor activities and outings. We are planning many activities for our children this summer. For those that are interested, we make available the opportunity for them to spend a week at Cragmont. Many of our children have found meaningful religious experiences while at camp.

Will you or your organization help us by sending a child to camp? By doing so, you will be contributing to his/her spiritual growth.

If you would like to help, please contact the Director of Child Care, P. O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557.

FAREWELL TO THE THICKS



Left to right: (March, 1978) Sam Lane, Director of Child Care, Sandy and David Thick, houseparents for Smith and State Cottages.

About 3 years ago, the Rev. David Thick and his family moved from the North to the Children's Home. They served as houseparents in Smith and State Cottages. In addition, Mr. Thick served as Director of Development and several other positions on the staff. The Thicks, Dave, Sandy, and their two daughters, Kim and Karen, leave us to pastor the Jackson Heights Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston. Mr. Sam Lane presents them with their going away gift, a coffee maker, during their final staff meeting with us. We wish them well in their new work.

THANK YOU NOTE

The Rev. Joe Edwards, P. O. Box 162, Alliance, North Carolina 28509, wishes to express his thanks for the prayers, cards, and visits to and for him during his illness. He asks that you continue to remember him in your prayers.

ATTENTION!

Please delete the name of the Rev. David J. Crawford from the 1978 Yearbook list of ministers. He is not, nor has he ever been an ordained Free Will Baptist minister.

—The Central Conference Ordaining Council

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Please explain "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he has committed sins, they shall be forgiven him" (James 5:14, 15). Is it still needful to anoint the sick?

Answer: Since James was writing to the church and in the church age, I think it fitting to anoint the sick with oil and pray as is suggested here.

I attended a very ill person together with two other ministers of the gospel at the request of this sick person and participated in this act together with them. The person began to improve in physical health early after the service. Rather late in life she had become the mother of a child and had experienced numerous setbacks causing the doctors concern. She is still alive. Her daughter became a Christian worker and is serving with her husband. They have nearly grown children now so from a personal view I have taken these verses rather literally since.

The oil is a symbol of the Holy Spirit and was used under the Levitical system to anoint prospective priests, kings and the like. We do not have to fully understand something to make use of it when we are instructed in God's Word to do it. Just exercise faith in the use of such knowing that what God says in His Word He will do. Jesus and the Apostles prayed for sick people and they were made well as a result.

We are told more than once to pray one for another and in a time of illness is most likely to be one of those times when one needs special prayer. The Holy Spirit seems to have given us this special instruction for such an occasion. If we fail to use what has been made available to us, given instructions how to use it, we lose it for all practical purposes.

I have known several that were made well following the proper use of this God-given remedy and have been party to a few successful uses of it.

George H. Sandison answers a similar question in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered** as follows:

"There are those who explain James 5:14 by associating the anointing of the sick with the official anointing of priests, kings and perhaps prophets. In this way they have given a sacramental and symbolical character to what is really a simple custom of ordinary family life. Now oil is in familiar use in the East as an article of the toilet. It takes the place of our pomades and scents and its use is regarded as a sign of health. Just so the neglect of oil is the sign that a man is out of health. Those who are sick are not allowed to be anointed, nor are those who are passing through a time of mourning. When, therefore, James enjoins the elders to anoint the sick—that is, at once make his usual toilet—after prayer for his restoration, he really means that they are to pray for him with full faith and show the strong faith by acting toward him as if he were in fact recovered—that is, ready for his daily anointing. The elders were to give expression to their faith by their works, the particular works which would best show it in the case of the sick that they should at once proceed to wash, dress, and anoint the sick man as if he were quite sure that God had heard their prayer and made him well."

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

DR. RAPER AT MEMORIAL CHURCH

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at the Mount Olive College Day set for Sunday, April 16, at Memorial Free Will Baptist Church in Chocowinity at the 11 a. m. service.

The Rev. Roy Cauley is pastor.

CHOIR WORKSHOP SET

A five-week choir workshop will be held at Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, beginning Thursday, April 27, at 7:30 p. m.

Choir directors and members will meet each Thursday for the five sessions and will be directed by Miss Gail Ball, an elementary music teacher in Wilson and Director of Music at Daniels Chapel church. Miss Ball is a graduate of Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College with a major in music.

The program will begin with a 45 minute lecture and discussion followed by a 45 minute practice session. The host church will provide light refreshments.

The workshop fee will be $12 per person, which includes all handout material supplied by Miss Ball. Registration will be on the first meeting night.

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM

The New Creations, Mount Olive College's traveling gospel singing and witnessing team, will perform Sunday, April 16, at Highland Pines Free Will Baptist Church in Hamlet for the morning worship service. The Rev. Fred Johnson is pastor.

At the evening worship service, the group will perform at Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church. The Rev. Walter Carter is pastor.

HARRISON NAMED "ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR"



Frank Ray Harrison, right, is presented the "Alumnus of the Year" award by last year's winner, Sheldon Howard, left. Harrison is currently Chaplain and professor at Mount Olive.

The Mount Olive College Alumni Association named Frank Ray Harrison as Alumnus of the Year at the annual banquet and meeting held on the Mount Olive campus, April 1.

Harrison, who graduated from Mount Olive in 1961, is currently College Chaplain and professor at Mount Olive College. He attended Atlantic Christian College, earning his BA degree in 1963.

After graduating from Atlantic Christian he married another 1961 Mount Olive College graduate, Vivian Beamon.

Harrison then went to Southeastern Theological Seminary where he received his Master of Divinity in 1967. Later he attended the School of Pastoral Care at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem for two years of post graduate clinical pastoral education.

He is currently a member of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors.

The Harrisons have a son, Kristopher, age 5.

MRS. SELMA JACKSON TEW

On Saturday morning, April 1, 1978, God, in His infinite wisdom and tender mercy, saw fit to pick another red rose to adorn His Great White Throne. So He called home Mrs. Selma Jackson Tew, Route One, Dunn.

She was a member of Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, a member of the woman's auxiliary, served on the pulpit committee, and Sunday school teacher. Until her health failed, she was always at her post of duty. She served her church, her family, and her community well. We bow in humble submission to God's will in calling her, and we know that our loss is Heaven's gain.

She has left this life of uncertainty, tears, and toils, but she has gone to be with her Lord with whom there is joy forevermore. For the path of the just is as the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

Let us look at the words of the wise old

Solomon which best describes her. Proverbs 31:10, 20, 27: "Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. . . .She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy . . . . She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness."

Submitted by,
Mrs. James Spell

SECOND DUPLEX PLANNED

The Retirement Homes has embarked on a new adventure this year as it seeks to provide the second duplex apartment at Middlesex. Both apartments presently on the campus are occupied. Having a full house, we must now turn our attention to expansion. We would like to raise the funds in the following manner.

1. The building will be named for the one who gives at least 1/2 of the cost of construction.

2. Special plaques will be posted for those who give $1,000 or more.

3. Names of donors giving $100 or more will be inscribed on a plaque which will be placed in the main hall of the new unit.

4. Or by giving at least $2 per member by churches and auxiliaries.

Another new idea that we would like to have your comments on is this: It has been suggested to the Board of the Retirement Homes that homeowners throughout the state be encouraged to donate their homes to the Retirement Homes program. The Retirement Homes would then operate the Home in that community for residents of that local area when they are ready for retirement. Write the Executive Director, Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc., P. O. Box 250, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557, and let us know what you think of this idea and also if you might consider giving your home to the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes program.

Auxiliaries IN Action

VICTORY CHURCH YFA'S WIN BIBLE QUIZ

The Bible Bowl Quiz was won by the Victory Free Will Baptist Church YFAs for the Cape Fear Youth Conference on March 25 at the Hopewell church in Smithfield. They won the first place trophy. Team members were Leonard Wallace, Lora Hall, Martha Fowler, and alternates, Tina Wallace, and Dora Hall. The team will compete on April 22 for the State Championship.

PEE DEE YOUTH MEET CYPRESS CREEK CHURCH

The Pee Dee Youth met at Cypress Creek Free Will Baptist Church, near Whiteville, on Monday night, March 27, at 7:30 p. m. The meeting started with an opening hymn, then Gary Cribb welcomed everyone. The Rev. Ransom McAbee from the White Oak church gave the opening prayer.

The meeting was then turned over to the president, Mark McPherson, who called the business meeting to order. Mrs. Hulla Kinlaw from White Oak lead the youths in some choruses. The minutes from the previous meeting were read by the secretary, Donna Cartrette, and were approved. There were five churches present at the meeting. A short business session was held. Cypress Creek presented an Easter Program directed by Mrs. Fannie Jones. The program was closed with prayer. Refreshments were served in the fellowship hall afterwards.

VICTORY CHURCH WOMAN'S AUXILIARY PRESENTS SKIT

Victory Free Will Baptist Church's Woman's Auxiliary presented an Easter skit on Palm Sunday evening written by Elsie Hunt, the governor's mother. It was taken from the March program. It was composed and directed by Mrs. Wilma Hall.

8th Anniversary

NEW BERN BOOKSTORE

April 14, 1978

BOOK SALE 20 PERCENT OFF

CARDS 15 PERCENT

NEWS & NOTES

Atlas Hogg Becomes Ordained Minister

The Rev. Atlas Hogg became an ordained minister of the gospel at the Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, on Wednesday night, March 29. The ordaining council of the Cape Fear Conference, friends and church members enjoyed an hour of fellowship in honor of the Rev. Hogg following the ordaining service. Powhatan is proud to have a faithful servant of God to answer the call from its midst.

Eastern District WA Convention Core Creek Church

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention met March 23, at Cove Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, with Core Creek, Friendship, and Wintergreen churches serving together as hosts for the spring meeting.

Mrs. Woodrow McCoy, president of Core Creek Auxiliary, welcomed the convention. The devotion was brought by Mrs. Wesley Newell who chose as her Scripture, 1 John 4. Mrs. Margaret Ard presented special music. Visitors and members were recognized. A short business session was held. An inspiring message was brought by Mrs. Raymond Sasser.

Lunch was served in the fellowship hall of the church. Further business was taken care of in the afternoon. The convention was closed with prayer by the president, Mrs. John Taylor.

Revival Announced at First Church, Smithfield

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Smithfield, announces its spring revival meeting for the week of April 16 through Thursday evening, April 20. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

The Rev. David C. Hansley, pastor of Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, will be the visiting evangelist for the revival services. The Rev. L. B. Woodall Jr. is pastor of the church.

Homecoming at Friendship Church, Farmville



L. B. Manning

Homecoming day is scheduled for April 16 at the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville. The Rev. L. B. Manning will preach the homecoming message. Lunch will be served on the church grounds. There will be a singspiration in the afternoon. All former members and friends are invited to attend. The Rev. Walter Reynolds is the pastor of the church.

Northeast Church To Honor Pastor

Northeast Free Will Baptist Church at Mount Olive, will honor the Rev. Lloyd Vernon in their morning worship service on April 16. A picnic lunch will be served on the church grounds at 12:30 p. m. His friends and relatives are invited.

Revival in Progress British Chapel Church

Revival services are in progress and will continue through April 14 at British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Kinston. The Rev. Dwight Gay of Living Waters church, Pikeville, is the evangelist. The services are beginning each evening at 7:30, with special music being provided nightly. The pastor, the Rev. Bruce Jones, joins the members in inviting everyone to attend the remainder of these services.

Union Chapel Church Revival and Homecoming

Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, will hold a spring revival from April 17 to 22, 1978.

The Rev. Fred Rivenbark will be the guest evangelist for the services, which will begin at 7:45 each night. There will be special singing at each service.

The Rev. Walton Parrish, pastor of Union Chapel, and all the members invite everyone to attend.

Visitors and friends will also be welcome at the Homecoming to be held on Sunday, April 23. Lunch will be served on the grounds after the morning services.

Gabriels at Winterville Church

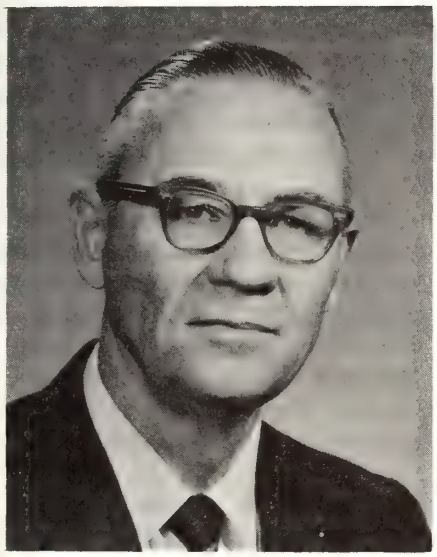
The Gabriels, a gospel singing group from New Bern, will appear in concert, Saturday night, April 15, at 7:30, at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville. Everyone who loves to hear good singing is invited to come.

Revival at Sneads Free Church

Revival services are scheduled for April 17-21 at Sneads Ferry Free Will Baptist Church, Onslow County. The Rev. Ronnie Parker, pastor of Hillsberry church, Clinton, will be the evangelist. Special music will be featured each evening. Each service will begin at 7:45 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. O. B. Taylor and

the church members invite the presence and prayers of everyone.

Spring Hill Church Announces Revival



C. L. Patrick

Revival services will be held at Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church, 4556 Highway 70 West, Goldsboro, April 17 through 21, with services beginning at 7:30 each night. The Rev. C. L. Patrick, pastor of Free Union church, Walstonburg, will be the guest evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. William L. Dale, joins the members in extending a special invitation to everyone to attend these services of praise, preaching, and rejoicing in the Lord.

State Sunday School Convention Meets

The North Carolina Sunday School Convention meets with the Elm Grove church on April 15, 1978.

(Elm Grove church is two miles off Highway 11 outside of Ayden. Turn east at the Ayden-Grifton High school.)

Workshops are planned for all Sunday school teachers, including one of superintendents, pastors and boards of Christian education.

The workshops this year emphasize "teaching for discipleship through meaningful Bible study." It is the teachers' task to get their students interested and involved in purposeful Bible study.

Every Sunday school is challenged to send all its teachers, superintendents, and pastors to Elm Grove church on April 15.

9:00—Assemble for Devotions and Registration
9:20—Workshops, first period
10:15—Break
10:25—Workshops, second period
11:30—Convention Business Session
12:30—Adjournment and Lunch

Workshops

1. Thru First Grade
2. Grades 2, 3, 4
3. Grades 5, 6
4. Grades 7, 8, 9
5. Grades 10, 11, 12
6. Young Adults
7. Adults
8. Administration

Cape Fear Union Meeting Powhatan Church

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will convene at Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, on April 29. Officers of the union are as follows: moderator, the Rev. J. Walter Stanley; assistant moderator, the Rev. Edward C. Taylor; secretary, Mrs. Joyce Nowell; assistant secretary, Mrs. Frances Phillips; treasurer, H. T. Hinson; and hymn director, Johnnie Woodall.

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, John Adcox
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, the Rev. L. B. Woodall, Jr.

10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business

11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. Arnold Price

12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship

Kivett Takes Pastoral at Otway Church



The Rev. and Mrs. James L. Kivett

The Otway Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Beaufort, wishes to announce that the Rev. James Kivett has taken the pastoral duties of the church. The Rev. and Mrs. Kivett moved in the church parsonage on March 3, 1978. He has been in the pastoral work for 34 years. He has pastored 12 different churches throughout the area of North Carolina. The Kivett's address is as follows: Route 2, Box 786, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516.

Coming Events . . .

April 15—State Sunday School Convention, Hosted by the Free Will Baptist Press, Meeting Place, Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Ayden.

April 21—Mount Olive Singers will perform at the Wayne County Law Enforcement Banquet. The Governor will be present and speak.

The lights are all out
In the mansion of clay;
The curtains are drawn,
For the dweller's away;
She silently slipped
O'er the threshold by night,
To make her abode
In the City of Light.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For April 23

ENLARGING THE CIRCLE

Lesson Text: Acts 8:4-8, 14-25
Memory Verse: Acts 8:4

I. INTRODUCTION

In last week's lesson we were introduced to a young man named Saul. It was he who stood watch over the garments of the irate members of the council as they cast the death-dealing stones at Stephen (Acts 7:58). But Saul did not remain as mere bystander as the leaders of the people unleashed their wrath upon the followers of Jesus; he assumed a place of leadership. The description of his actions is strong and emphatic: he "began ravaging the church, entering house after house; and dragging off men and women, he would put them in prison."

Saul continued his assault with vigor and conviction. His violence may well have been one of the primary factors in the dispersion of the Christians from Jerusalem, about which we shall study today.

We do well to review frequently Chapters 6-8 of Acts, for they carry a message with tremendous impact for the twentieth-century church. In the previous chapters the central figures have been the apostles; in the succeeding chapters, it is Paul. Their names are household words, and their deeds are heroic. In these three chapters, however, the spotlight falls upon the lesser figures, namely Stephen and Philip.

Last week we considered Stephen, his character, his courage, and his fate. This week we look briefly at the ministry of Philip. Both Philip and Stephen were among the seven servants chosen to direct the benevolent ministry of the church in Jerusalem. Like Stephen, Philip was selected because he was "full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom" (Acts 6:3). And like Stephen, Philip became an outstanding herald of salvation through Jesus Christ, with astounding success. Whereas Stephen laid down his life in behalf of the gospel of Christ, Philip left Jerusalem when bitter persecution broke out there and was called upon to carry the gospel out to the Samaritans, a people despised by the Jews.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In the beginning, the church was made up entirely of Jews. God wanted the believers to move out from Jerusalem into Samaria with the message of the gospel, but apparently the church had no plans to do so. God allowed great persecution to come to the church. This wave of persecution culminated in the scattering of the believers, and as they went, the gospel was spread.

B. God's design for the church called for the church to advance in two ways. First, the church was to advance geographically; it was to move from the city of Jerusalem to the villages of Judea and Samaria. Acts 1:8 shows that this was God's plan for the church from the beginning. Second, the church was to advance nationally. It was to move from the Jews to other nations and nationalities. It was time for the gospel to spread to the Gentile nations.

C. The years described in Acts 8-12 were transitional years in the church's history. During this time the apostles first accepted that the gospel was for the Gentile as well as the Jew. During this period the first foreign mission work was born.

D. Saul of Tarsus, who became Paul the apostle, was first mentioned in Acts 7; he is mentioned again in the first three verses of Chapter 8. Verse 3 says, "As for Saul, he made havoc of the church." Saul's murderous persecution caused the church to scatter and wherever they went, they preached the gospel of a risen Lord. Wherever they preached, the people believed, and wherever the people believed, new churches sprang up. The persecutors had only multiplied the church.

E. Simon professed the name of Christ and was baptized. When he saw the power of God coming upon the people as a result of the apostles' laying hands on them and praying, he wanted to buy this power. Peter rebuked him and told him to repent or he would perish.

F. The spread of the gospel to Samaria shows us two important things. First, the gospel is for all people, regardless of race or nationality. Second, the gospel is suited to the needs of people, regardless of what their national origin might be. What a wonderful gospel we have!

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. God did not intend that the gospel be confined to the Jews, although they were the ones Jesus first came to. The gospel was intended for all men regardless of race, national origin, or social strata. No one can buy or earn the salvation of the Holy Spirit, it is a free gift from God through repentance of sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Every man can become a part of the enlarging circle if he chooses to, but only according to God's way and plan.

B. The process for receiving the Holy Spirit, therefore, was (1) repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ, (2) baptism by water (immersion), and (3) reception of the Holy Spirit (His baptism) as the apostles laid their hands on the believers.

C. Acts 8:9-13 explains who Simon was. He was greatly impressed by the miracle of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and wanted this "magical" power. He offer to buy this power, offering money to the apostles.



STANDING UP FOR GOD

In Sunday school and church we sometimes sing a song that tells us to stand up for Jesus. If your class knows this song, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus," maybe you would like to sing a few verses of this song now, since we are going to be talking about standing up for Jesus and God today.

Have you ever had a chance to stand up for Jesus or God, the heavenly Father? Maybe you do not know exactly what we mean about standing up for God. Then maybe you will understand what we mean when we talk about standing up for God.

Once there lived a boy named David. David belonged to the group of people who loved God. But when David lived, just like today, there were many people in the world who did not love God. And the people who did not love God were causing trouble and fighting against the people who did love God.

At this particular time, the people called the Philistines were fighting God's people. The Philistines were actually trying to kill all of God's people. Now David was just a young boy. But his three older brothers were men and they had gone off to help fight. So after awhile David's father wished to know how his three older boys were getting along. So he sent David with some corn over to where God's people were fighting the Philistines. David was to give the food to his brothers and see how they were doing.

When David arrived at the place of the fight, he found out that the Philistines had a giant in their army. This giant had dared anyone of God's people to come out and fight him. But everyone was afraid. None of God's people thought they could win the fight with the giant.

David was not afraid of this giant. He said, "Let me go out and fight the giant. I will go in the name of the living God. God will help His people. Let me fight the giant."

Some of the fighting men took David to see the king who listened to what David had to say about fighting the giant. The king decided to let David have a chance to fight the giant. The king gave David his sword and his armor, which is something like a steel suit that one wears to protect his body.

But after David tried on the king's armor and sword, he decided not to use them, since he really had never tried the king's things out. Instead of the sword and armor, David took his sling and five stones with him to fight the giant.

When the giant saw David coming, he was sort of disgusted to think that this young boy was coming out to fight him. Then the giant cursed David. And he told David he was going to kill him and feed his body to the birds and animals.

David said to the giant, "You are coming to fight me with a sword and a spear and a shield, but I come to you in the name of the Lord." David knew that his God would help him. David trusted God. David said, "I will kill you. God will help me get rid of you because you are fighting God's people. The Lord does not have to have a sword and spear in order to win a battle."

And then, as the Philistine giant came toward David, David ran to meet him. David took a stone and put it into his sling and shot it. The stone went into the giant's head and knocked him down. Then David ran to him and stood on him and cut the giant's head off with the giant's very own sword.

How happy God's people must have been to see that their enemy was dead. And how frightened the Philistines were that their great giant had been killed. They ran and tried to get away from God's people before they killed the rest of them.

David was willing to stand up for God. He was willing to do what he knew was right to do when all the people were afraid. God was with David and helped him because David trusted and believed in God.

Sometimes boys and girls have to do what they know is right even when no one else will help them. Sometimes Christians must stand up for God and do right, even though they have to stand alone.

Can you think of sometime when you had to do what you knew was right and you could not get anyone to help you? God was with you even if your friends or sisters or brothers were not helping you.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

SHOOTING WOUNDED SOLDIERS

by Woodrow Hill

"I come to you as a person who is broken," declared a pastor as he stood before the minister's conference of his association. He related to his brother pastors that he had been fired by his congregation the day before. In a called church business meeting his parishioners voted that they no longer wanted his services, but as a gesture of compassion they decided to pay him three month's salary and give him continued use of the parsonage for that period of time while he and his family effected a readjustment.

"I'd rather you hear this news from me than from someone else," the dismissed minister said. Then he emphasized, "I come to you as a wounded soldier!" He wanted to make certain, however, that his words not do harm to his former congregation. He said, "I'm not out to destroy the church, for it is God's church; it is a church for which Christ died. I simply want you to know that I come to you as a hurt man." He wanted the prayers and moral support of his fellow ministers in his critical time of need.

Ministers in the audience were hearing words and sensing feelings not unfamiliar to them. All heard echoes of voices previously sounded on similar occasions, and once again felt pain and sensitivity not always understood by members of local congregations who too easily tire of men called to be their pastors. In an entertainment oriented society, church members often reveal their disappointment if they do not have a charismatic personality with a beautifully resonant voice in their pulpit from week to week. Even when such a person is present, he is expected to possess the physical features of a television entertainer.

Losing one's pulpit represents a trauma far beyond being out of work, for a minister is one who has been called of God and carries with him a sense of divine commission. An ill and aging minister in the conference addressed himself to the problem. "The thing that hurt me most was not when the doctor told me I had cancer," he said, "but when I was told I could no longer be a pastor."

The dismissed minister spoke once again: "When one faces an experience like I am going through," he said, "thoughts from the Book of Job begin to surface." He recited his involvement in reading the experiences of that Old Testament character who was buffeted to and fro by Satan until he was all but destroyed, but who ultimately declared, "I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day . . ." (Job 19:25). In a season of prayer for the wounded brother, one fellow-minister remembered the words of Jesus: "The time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God a service" (John 16:2).

Both congregations and ministers suffer from experiences like the one related here. Each encounter is a reminder that Satan is alive and well, and however ministers and congregations may survive such experiences, it is doubtful that the occasions can be attributed to the will of God. When they do occur, attempt should be made by both pastor and parishioner to salvage what is not irreparably damaged by the stressful experience The heart of Christ must bleed afresh when frail humanity precipitates this kind of pain in the congregation of the redeemed.

Weaknesses in a pastor should be expected by his congregation, for he is just as human as any member of his church . . . (The Biblical Recorder)

CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES

by DeWayne Eakes

As Jesus called His disciples to be the bridge between Himself and the world, so He calls His people today to bear witness to their faith and to make Him known. In Luke 6:12, 13 we find two principle truths that help us to understand the nature of our Life-in-Christ. Jesus called His disciples, and from among them He chose His Apostles. The movement is one of calling to Himself and then of sending into the world.

1. We are Called to Follow. To follow means to go after. It means to submit to the will of the one who leads. It implies personal obedience. It involves loyalty, allegiance and fidelity.

In the first Christian century the command to follow conveyed two pictures: the one of a soldier who owed allegiance to his superior officers and the other of a slave who owed obedience to his master. One who follows Christ willingly offers Him complete allegiance and renders absolute obedience in serving Him.

Jesus' call to discipleship demands a response. It may be a response of acceptance or of rejection. If the call is to be accepted, then acceptance requires definite steps of decision and commitment.

2. We are Chosen to Serve. From among the disciples Jesus chose twelve "whom He named apostles." The term "apostle" means "one who is sent." Jesus said to His disciples, "As the Father has sent me even so send I you" (John 20:21).

There is both a technical and a general sense in which this term is used. Technically an apostle was one who had seen the Lord personally and had been so designated by Him. Paul called himself an apostle who was born out of due time. He had a vision of the Lord in his conversion experience on the Damascus Road. Jesus designated Paul as an apostle, saying, "He is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the gentiles and the sons of Israel" (Acts 9:15).

Generally speaking every Christian is chosen and sent to bear witness for Christ. In this sense the Church today is an extension of the apostolic band. "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it you" (John 15:16)—Walter L. Dosch, Beverly Heights United Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. (Reprinted by permission of **Pulpit Digest**, Jackson, Mississippi 39216.)



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CALLING ALL WOMEN

To A Cragmont Rally

At

Spring Hill
Free Will Baptist Church

Goldsboro, Highway 70 West

Sunday, April 30

At 3:00 P. M.

Followed by Coffee Time
At 5:00 P. M.

Moon advises that Christians all over the world deserve to decline because they do not accept him as Saviour. Beware, you may be contributing to his cause without knowing it!



APR 19 19

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

MOON FEVER HIGH

(An examination of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon and His Unification Church)

"I fulfill the mission of Jesus and Moses," claims Sun Myung Moon, "and I have inherited the mission and the work and will succeed Jesus and will bring to completion what He has left undone."

Thus, Moon and the Unification Church have amassed a great following. Millions have been swayed by his doctrine—"brainwashed," say some; and have poured literally *billions* into his coffers.

He claims the right to forgive sin; but because of "his rejection" by his fellow Koreans, he declares that *they* deserve hell. As a consequence of their delaying his ministry, the whole nation must suffer; and, further, contends he, Christians all over the world deserve to decline "because they did not accept me."

Yet, many people *have* accepted Moon. Even millions! And their stage (reminiscent of Shakespeare) is the world. But Moon and his followers admit that they must shake up America first in order to triumph over the world. "America," he allows, "is the leading nation." He is quoted as saying that he has been using direct and indirect influence on senators and congressmen. His public relation persons have been planted everywhere, and they exercise zeal and might to do their master's bidding. Reportedly, their tactics are less than honest; but their compulsion is such that *anything* they do is right so long as it is done for Moon and the Unification Church.

Moon is a self-styled authority on scriptural teaching, and he denies that the Bible is God's truth word-by-word. He does, however, grant that the Bible is *based* on the truth. This fact alone—his "flexible" view of the Holy Word—is enough to strike fear in the hearts of many of us!

He even claims that when his "time is come," he will be free to teach *without* the Bible, for all things, all knowledge, and all truth will be *his*. In short, *he will be recognized as the Saviour.*

Moonism is based on an ancient Eastern philosophy called Taoism, founded in the sixth century B.C., which teaches unassertive living, pristine simplicity, and a "quiet, do-nothing" kind of existence. To this philosophy Moon added Bible phrases, spiritualism, a touch of the occult and its sundry components, and created a religion that is sweeping the whole world.

He founded the church in 1954 in Korea, and the U. S. movement began in 1972. The church (which, incidentally, is purported to be a personification of Moon himself) teaches absolute, sacrificial living. *Everyone* connected with the church, seems to practice self-denial, *except* Moon, who, it is reported, is worth well over a *billion dollars.*

One of the sadder things about Moon's persuasive, hypnotic power, is that the majority of his converts are young, trusting souls, mostly in their twenties. They are not easily recognized as "Moonies," for they do not exhibit any peculiar outward behavior, though they are referred to as "Moon-merized, Moonwashed, and Moonstruck."

As fund-raisers, they are superb. Many of us have probably met them on street corners, in public markets, in banks, and in other places of business without realizing who they actually were. They sell trinkets, pamphlets, candy, combs, candles, flowers—even American flags—for "a good cause," "for missionary work," "for the poor, the blind, the disadvantaged," "for orphans"—and you name it! Any benevolent cause is their playhouse, and their so-called "heavenly deception" is all right, even sanctioned by Master Moon and his church.

One of the Moonies' techniques is to go into a new area or town, set up headquarters in an unoccupied building, and begin a singing, door-to-door

(Continued on Page 14)

Cover design by Ronnie Harrison

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APRIL 19, 1978

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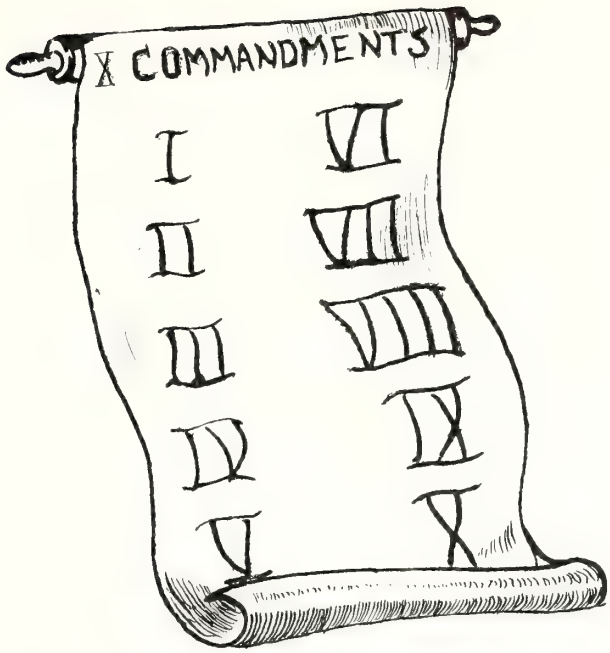
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THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

by Miss Laura Ann Dale

This sermonette was used by Miss Dale, Godwin, North Carolina, on Sunday, February 26, 1978, when Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route One, Dunn, observed "Youth Sunday." She is a member of the church, the YFA, the Six in Christ Singers, and attends Midway High School.

WHEN are the Ten Commandments broken? Constantly. The Ten Commandments are broken day after day. Almost everyone knows the Ten Commandments and knows when they break them. Many times we have looked to the Lord for forgiveness when we have broken one of the Ten Commandments.

And God spake all these words saying "I am the LORD thy God which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage" (Exodus 20:2).

One of the Ten Commandments that is constantly broken is "Thou shalt have no other God before me" (Exodus 20:3). People, today, worship money as if it were a God. A miser once buried all his money at the foot of a tree. He went every day to feast upon the sight of his treasure. A thief, who had watched him every day, came one night and carried off the treasure (which was gold). The next day the miser, finding his treasure gone, tore his clothes and filled the air with his lamentations. A neighbor hearing his outcry and learning the cause said, "Pray, do not grieve so; but go and get a stone, place it in a hole, and fancy it is your gold. It will be just as much service to you as the money was." Nothing is of value that is not of use. Money may buy you some things in this world, but it won't buy your way into Heaven, nor will it buy love or happiness.

We should never worship people as if they were some great god. People today like to worship people with plenty of money and plenty of popularity. We should keep in mind the commandment that says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Today's thought is that the ones who seek their happiness by buying cars, clothes, and rings, don't seem to know that empty lives are just as empty filled with things.

"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them; for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the inquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments" (Exodus 20:4-6). This commandment is broken every day. Plenty of people think of themselves as some great idol whom everyone should bow down and worship.

"Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; . . ." (Exodus 20:7). This commandment is broken over and over again. People break it day after day. A lot of people use the Lord's name in vain. People go to church on Sunday and claim to be such good persons; and then, on Monday, they forget about the Lord and use His name in vain. We get on our knees and ask God to forgive us knowing good and well that we are going to make the same mistakes again. God has told us that sometimes we will backslide, but He didn't tell us to do it over and over again.

One of the ten commandments that we tend to forget is to "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8). The Sabbath Day is given to us to relax and worship the Lord. The Sabbath Day isn't given to us to get off from work and just do things that will entertain us and not even think of the Lord. One day it will be too late. "Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD

Turn the Page

thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man servant, nor thy maid servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates'' (Exodus 20:9, 10). Worshiping the Lord can and will be rewarding.

One of the Ten Commandments that we all need to improve on is ''Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land the LORD thy God giveth thee'' (Exodus 20:12). This commandment doesn't mean that when you get old enough to be on your own you can stop honoring them. You should honor and love your parents all though their lives. Our parents will help us in any time of trouble if we will just call of them. Too many of us take our parents for granted. We should treat our parents as we would want to be treated.

One of the Ten Commandments which we may not break is ''Thou shalt not kill'' (Exodus 20:13). You could help keep someone from killing someone else. We should go out and try to bring people closer to God. People are wounded and killed minute after minute. People today are lonely, depressed, and sad so they try to get out of it by killing themselves. This is not the way out, God is the answer to all of today's problems.

''Thou shalt not commit adultery'' (Exodus 20:14). There is more and more of this every day. People are just getting too weak. They need to turn their lives over to God. He is the answer and can supply every need. Some people think that they can commit adultery and if nobody sees them on earth it's all right. God is what really counts and He sees everything we do.

Another sin that is committed day after day is ''Thou shalt not steal'' (Exodus 20:15). Some people think that stealing is just going out and seeing something you want and taking it. Some people here today will go out and cheat someone out of some money or trick them into buying something that is useless. This is stealing in the eyes of the Lord. If you read someone's name in the paper who has been caught stealing you would think that was a crime, when you are doing something just as bad. There is not any difference between a person who gets caught and a person who does not. God will punish all of us if we do not keep His commandments. Cheating on a test is one of the sins that a lot of teenagers are guilty of. God sees and knows every turn and every move that we make.

One of the Ten Commandments which it wouldn't hurt if any of us improved on is ''Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour'' (Exodus 20:16), knowing it is also wrong in the eyes of the Lord. We should always think many times before we speak.

If you were busy being kind, before you knew it, you would find you'd soon forget that someone was unkind to you. If you were busy being glad and cheering people who are sad, although your heart might ache a bit, you'd soon forget to notice it. If you were busy being glad and doing just the best you could, you'd not have to blame someone who's doing the best he can. If you were busy being right, you'd find yourself too busy being quiet to criticize your neighbor because he was busy being wrong.

The last commandment is ''Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's'' (Exodus 20:17). This commandment is very important. Just because our neighbor has a new car doesn't mean that we have to have one. Sometimes when we have troubles, we think we are the only one that has any. Maybe our neighbor knows how to cope with troubles better than we do, because I'm sure he has his own. Don't envy other people. Maybe, if the truth were known, you'd find their burdens far heavier than is the case with you. Because a fellow can show a smiling face, don't think you'd have an easier time if you could take his place.

It is hope and cheery courage that incite one to retrieve one's past mistakes, to start afresh, to dare and to achieve. So smile, and if perchance you light the spark of hope anew, in some poor, sad, and burdened heart, all honor be to you. The next time you think about doing something wrong, think of what I've said. Before I close, I would like to read the alphabet of success.

Alphabet of Success

Attend carefully to details.
Be prompt in all things.
Consider well, then decide positively.
Dare to do right, fear to do wrong.
Endure trails bravely.
Go not into the society of the vicious.
Hold integrity sacred.
Injure not another's reputation.
Keep your mind free from evil thoughts.
Lie not for any consideration.
Make a few special acquaintances.
Never try to appear what you are not.
Observe good manners.
Pay your debts promptly.
Question not the veracity of a friend.
Respect the counsel of your parents.
Sacrifice money rather than principle.
Touch not, taste not intoxicating drinks.
Use leisure for improvement.
Venture not upon the threshold of wrong.
Watch carefully over your passions.
Extend to everyone a kindly greeting.
Yield not to discouragement.
Zealously labor for right, and success is certain.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For April 30

SAUL: PERSECUTOR BECOMES APOSTLE

Lesson Text: Acts 9:1-16
Memory Verse: Acts 9:22

I. INTRODUCTION

Those who manufacture plywoods, furniture, and cabinetry have become experts at making a thin veneer look like solid oak, walnut, and other expensive woods. The genuine layer may be only one sixty-fourth of an inch thick. Under this is a backing of pine, poplar, or some other less expensive wood. A slight scratch or dent and the deception is exposed.

This illustrates the commitment that some professing Christians have to Jesus as Lord. On the surface such a one appears genuine, but this appearance may be only a thin covering over an uncommitted, unconverted heart. Under only the slightest testing or pressure of adversity and persecution, the facade of faith is torn away, exposing the unchanged old man of sin. Without question, such hypocrisy is one of the greatest obstacles to the progress and growth of the church in our generation.

The Christian's commitment to Christ is not to be in appearance only; it is to govern every word, act, and decision of life. It is true that temptations will confront him, just as they did before he was converted. It is also true that he may not always pass every test of his faith and new life with flying colors. But he is to be diligent always in trying to conform to the perfect example of Christ and to be different from the world. In a word, he is to be genuine in his character and conduct.

There are many in this age, just as there have been in every age, who have had their lives changed completely by accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior. It happened to the apostles. It happened to a man named Justin Martyr, who, in about A.D. 165, gave his life rather than deny his Savior. Hear his testimony regarding the changes made in the lives of the men and women of his day who were won to Christ: "We, who formerly delighted in fornication, now strive for purity. We who used magical arts, have dedicated ourselves to the good and eternal God. We who loved the acquisition of wealth more than all else, now bring what we have into a common stock, and give to every one in need. . . . We pray for our enemies; we endeavor to persuade those who hate us unjustly to live conformably to the beautiful precepts of Christ, to the end that they may become partakers with us of the same joyful hope of a reward from God, the ruler of all." Would to God that all who accept Jesus as Lord of their life experience such a complete change!

This lesson is about a man whose life was changed in the manner described immediately above when he was confronted by Christ. His change was radical, genuine, and complete. We refer to Saul of Tarsus, better known to us as Paul. When this young Pharisee's life-direction changed so radically, the bitterest enemy of the Way was transformed into the most agressive preacher of the resurrected Christ. Today's lesson is basic in this transformation. The book of Acts gives three records of Saul's conversion (9:1-18; 22:4-21; 26:9-18). We study the first of these.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Technically, there is a difference between reformation and conversion. The word "conversion" literally means change, so people sometimes apply this word to reformation, which is a change. In Christian circles, the word reformation sometimes carries the connotation of being regenerated. So when you hear the word, be sure that you know what the speaker means by it.

B. All men are sinners and so must be saved from the power and penalty of sin. All must experience the three elements of conviction, conversion, and consecration. However, not everyone has an experience as dramatic as Saul's. Sometimes the three elements come with a great emotional upheaval, and sometimes they come with very little emotion. We cannot measure the authenticity of anyone's experience by what we see.

C. In this lesson, we have a man who openly opposed the church, even to the extent of wanting to destroy it. But the Lord saved him. Sometimes we get the idea that there are some cases that are too hard, but there are no cases that are too hard for the Lord. Someone has stated that truth in this manner: "He can save from the guttermost to the uttermost."

D. Many Bible scholars feel that Saul's conversion came about because he heard Stephen preach and saw him die. The Bible does not tell us this, but it seems likely. We never know whose life may be touched by our faithfulness when we stand true to the Lord under adverse conditions.

E. What are some of the evidences of salvation that showed in Saul's life? First, he was willing to obey the Lord. He asked, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" Then, after he was saved, he prayed and was obedient to what the Lord told him to do. Later he became an apostle and his name became Paul. Are there evidences of salvation in your life?

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

Coming Events . . .

April 21—Mount Olive Singers will perform at the Wayne County Law Enforcement Banquet. The Governor will be present and speak.

April 22—Free Will Baptist Historical Society Meeting, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, 10 a. m.

MOC

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NEW ALUMNI OFFICERS FOR 1978-80



The Mount Olive College Alumni Association elected officers at their annual meeting held recently. The officers are from left, Mrs. Cathy (Wallace) Crumpler of Piney Grove Church in Albertson; the Rev. Donald Coates, pastor of Barnes Hill (Nash County), both serving as members at-large; Penny Edwards of First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson now living in Greenville is secretary; Eddie Morris of Marsh Swamp Church (Wilson County) as president; Mrs. Mary Dudley of Northeast church (Mount Olive) a member at-large; the Rev. L. B. Woodall, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Smithfield as representative to the Board of Trustees; and the Rev. Carlton Lucas, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of LaGrange, as a member at-large.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Sampson County on Sunday, April 23, at the 10 a. m. and 11 a. m. worship services.

The Rev. Allen Bryan is pastor.

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM AT YOUTH CONVENTION

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will sing and share testimony at the State Youth Convention on Saturday, April 22, at the Beaverdam Free Will Baptist Church in Chadbourn.

The singing group is under the direction of Miss Caroline Castelloe, Mount Olive College professor.

PIANO PERFORMANCE SET

Steve Hunter, visiting artist for Wayne Community College, will perform a piano recital at Mount Olive College on Thursday, April 20, at 8 p. m. in the auditorium on the downtown campus. A reception will follow.

Beginning his musical study at age 6, Hunter attended the Governor's School in 1968. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree and Master of Music degree in piano from the School of Music at UNC—Greensboro, where he also taught piano and music theory.

Hunter has performed at the North Carolina Executive Mansion before Governor James B. Hunt Jr. and his cabinet, as well as Lincoln Center in New York and in Norway and Sweden.

He is affiliated with the College Music Society, the American Scandinavian Foundation, and Music Teachers of America. He was recently named in Outstanding Young Men of America, 1978 by the Jaycees.

GIFTS TO MOYE LIBRARY

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of March, 1978, totaled $505 and were as follows:

In Memory Of

Mrs. Mary Best by Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive.

Stanley Byrd by Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive.

Michael B. Chandler by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

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Mrs. Emma Daughtry by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Tyson Y. Dobson, Sr. by United Medthodist Women of Bethel Church, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rhodes, Beulaville.

Charles Marion Earley by Lloyd, Mary Lou and Thelma Dilday, Ahoskie.

Mrs. Alice P. Garris by Mrs. Nettie J. Hart and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Briley, Ayden.

Mrs. Ruth E. Harrison by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Leslie S. Hart by A. F. Rowe, Ayden; and Celia Hart Garris Women's Auxiliary, Ayden.

Ed Herring by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Blackwelder, Mount Olive.

Ronald P. Heath by Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive.

Mattie Belle Holloman by Woman's Auxiliary, Howell Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg.

Mrs. Carrie Davenport Jackson by Mrs. Clinton Heath, Deep Run; and Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Daisey Boyette Johnson by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Jenny Langley by Mrs. Darrell W. Morse, Havelock.

Mrs. Pearl Little by Mrs. Daisy Owens and Mrs. Effie Webb, Elm City.

Kenneth Long by Celia Hart Garris Women's Auxiliary, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Charles McCoy by Mrs. and Mrs. Paul Burroughs, New Bern.

Mrs. Mary McPherson by Ladies Auxiliary, Beaver Dam Free Will Baptist Church, Chadbourn.

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Mrs. Doreatha Mercer by Ladies Auxiliary, Beaver Dam Free Will Baptist Church, Chadbourn.

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Mattie Parrish by Mr. and Mrs. Lester Fulghum , Wilson.

Claude Pittman, Sunday School, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville.

Muscoe Stotler Porter Sr. by Mr. and Mrs. Doug Connor, Mount Olive.

Blan Rhodes by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rhodes, Beulaville.

Mrs. Nell Walker by Mrs. Ethel Walker and Children, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Anne N. Warren by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Frances C. Warren by Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Warwick, Newton Grove.

Cecil Waters by Mrs. and Mrs. Randall Albertson, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Ray Walker, Mount Olive.

Floyd Vergil Whitehurst by Powell Bible Class, Smithfield Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield; and Ruth Warrick Sunday School Class, Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield.

Jessie Lee Whitley by Mrs. Daisy Owens, Mrs. Effie Webb, Elm City.

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Mr. and Mrs. Joe Rose by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

The Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Starnes by YFA, Holly Springs, Free Will Baptist Church, Newport.

STATE CONVENTION GOES TO FAYETTEVILLE

The 1978 session of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will hold its Sixty-Sixth annual meeting in the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium-Arena Fayetteville, September 13, 14, 1978.

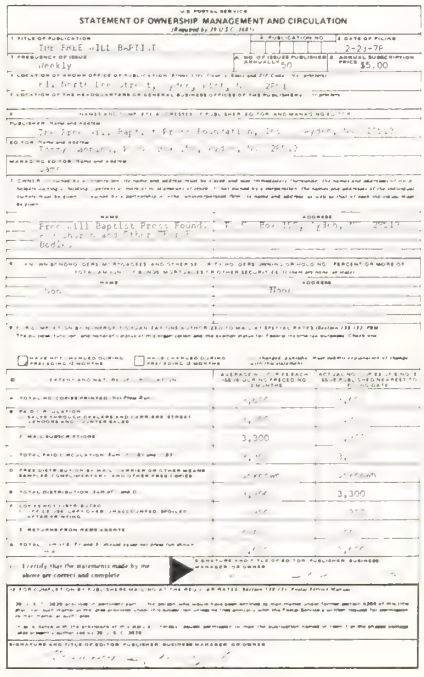
This session of the State Convention is shaping up to be one of the best ever. We hope that each church and representative body will begin selecting delegates to attend.

Wednesday night will be the time for the great Missions Rally.

Directions to the auditorium will be printed later in THE FREE WILL BAPTIST. A listing of available motels will also be printed.

Please pray that this session of the State Convention of Free Will Baptists will be the most inspiring ever.

Robert May, President
State Convention of Free Will Baptists


STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION



SUNDAY, APRIL 23

Scripture Reading—Psalm 89:37

STALE OR FRESH?

A story is told of an old man who had a wonderful experience twenty-five years ago, so wonderful that he wrote it all down, and called it his "Blessed Experience," and when people called on him he would often bring it out and read it through to them. One night, when a friend called in, he said to his wife, "My dear, just run upstairs and bring down my 'Blessed Experience' from the drawer in the bedroom." She went upstairs to get it and on returning she said, "I am sorry, but the mice have been in the drawer, and have eaten up your 'Blessed Experience'!" And a good thing too! If you had a blessing twenty-five years ago, and have not had one since, you had better forget it, and get an up-to-date experience.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Is that the way we are with Jesus? Do we just have an experience every twenty-five years?

MONDAY, APRIL 24

Scripture Reading—Acts 22:14

GOD'S WILL: THE PLACE OF SAFETY

"Is it safe to work among the lepers?" was asked of Sam Higginbottom, of India, whose missionary service had been so blessed to the outcasts whom Christ asked us specially to remember and heal. "Yes," was the answer, "it is safer to work among the lepers, if it's my job, than to work anywhere else." A place of safety outside God's will is too risky a place for any child of God to contemplate.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are to witness for God wherever He calls. We don't know where He is calling us to go.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

Scripture Reading—Psalm 89:19

HOW NOT TO MISS THE GUIDANCE

Some boys were once trying to see which could make the straightest track across a snowy field. One succeeded in making a perfectly straight track. When asked how he did it he said, "I kept my eyes fixed on the goal, while you fellows kept yours on your feet." If, "mine eyes are ever toward the Lord," I will walk a straight way.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus is the straight and narrow way, if we but follow Him. Don't you like the straight way?

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 1:7

"ONLY ONE LINE OF A SUNDAY SCHOOL VERSE!"

F. Mitchell, at Keswick, told of an old woman he had met. She said, "I was a terrible drunkard. I used to go out at six o'clock in the morning, as people were going to work, and sing for a few coppers; then I waited for the earliest hour when the public house opened.

"One morning I was making my way back to my filthy, unkempt, and barely furnished home. The thirst for drink was so terrible that I was becoming desperate, and I had two or three hours to wait for the opening of the public house. Arriving home I knelt down on the dirty floor, and the only thing I knew was one line of a hymn—'Jesus loves me, this I know'—I did not know the rest, and I prayed, 'If that is so, Jesus, do something for me.' Instantly I was set gloriously free."

Mr. Mitchell added: "Some of you Sunday school teachers may take heart from that. You may teach a child a verse of Scripture or a simple hymn containing a divine truth, and he may go out into the world and forget it for years, but the seed is buried there. When I saw this woman, for ten or fifteen years she had been living in a drunkard's home and walking in the midst of old defilement without being touched."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you have a favorite hymn? Do you sing it a lot? Do you listen to the words of that song? Do they tell you a story about Jesus' love?

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

Scripture Reading—Luke 7:50

"WAKE UP, YOU'RE DREAMING!"

"Wake up, old man; you're dreaming," yelled a passerby to a converted drunkard who was testifying to the saving power of Christ in a street meeting. The converted drunkard's little daughter, standing nearby, plead thusly, "O, please sir, don't wake him up! Before he began dreaming, as you say, he would beat up Mom and me, and didn't provide for us. But now, since he has begun to dream, as you say, he is good to Mom and me, and he brings home his money and provides for us. O, please sir, let him dream on! Don't wake him up!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Doesn't the devil play with people, especially drunks? When a drunk is asleep he is more pleasant then when he is awake.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 4:5

"O MOMMY, GIVE JESUS A CHANCE TO WORK!"

Mother gazed in consternation at the seemingly expanding bump on Bobby's head. Bobby, six-years-old, had just come home from school. "How did you get such a bump? Who hit you?" inquired the anxious mother. "Were you fighting the other children?" Then said the mother, "Come here, let me put cold compresses on it right away!" Backing toward his bedroom door, little Bobby pleaded, "Jus' a minute, please. I want to talk to Jesus!" His

private session over, he went cheerfully to play. But a few moments later, his mother called him for the application of the aforementioned cold compresses. Whereupon, Bobby questioned, "Aw, Mommy, why don't you give Jesus a chance?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

When God's children misbehave, they should ask God to forgive them. Bobby asked Jesus to help him.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

Scripture Reading—John 3:16

WHAT AM I NOW TO BELIEVE?

A lady once wrote to a servant of Christ, "Will you put it down in black and white what I am to believe?

"I have been told of many different texts; and they are so many that I am bewildered.

"Please tell me one text, and I will try to believe it."

The answer came, "It is not any one text, nor any number of texts that saves, any more than the man who fled the city of refuge was saved by reading the directions on the finger posts. It is by trusting a Person—the Lord Jesus Christ—that we are saved."

PRAYER THOUGHT

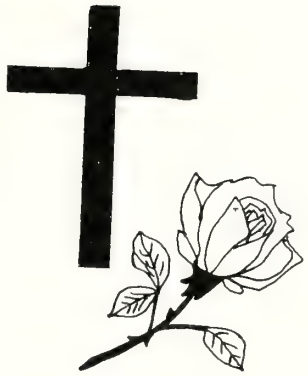
When we are saved, we repent, accept Christ, and are baptized. We have to trust in Jesus for He cares for you.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

CORRECTION PLEASE!

In the history of the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church ("Church of the Month," THE FREE WILL BAPTIST, March 22, 1978), Mrs. Mary Lou Lucas' name was inadvertantly given as Mrs. Mary Lou Whitfield. We regret the error and offer our apologies to Mrs. Lucas.

—The Editor



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

There have been so many special moments in my life. I feel sure that others feel this way but never take the time to share them. Isn't that what life is so much about during these times of so much uncertainty, coupled with presssure, sickness and sorrows. So often it is just a kind word or letting others know we care, especially if we have walked a similar road.

Shortly after my husband entered the ministry in a church conducting services on a half-time basis, during a service a devoted Christian lady rose and began to read. Not expecting this, I paid close attention to the beautiful story she began to tell. Suddenly I realized that since I was the minister's wife, she was speaking directly to me. Tears filled my eyes. Realizing there are so many ministers, wives, and children who need the prayers and support of dedicated Christian men and women who are willing to unite together as one body to help promote God's kingdom on this earth, I would like to share the speech this lady shared with us. Maybe other ministers' wives will receive strength and courage to remain faithful until our Lord returns to claim His own.

The Woman By His Side

When a man is greatly honored, and success has cheered his heart, there is usually a woman who deserves an equal part; for while he has worked and struggled as the days have come and gone, she has quietly encouraged, and her love has urged him on. There have been both joys and sorrows as he labored every day, until finally he reached the pinnacle along the way; but the wife who shared his burdens and who watched with glowing pride, also earns much commendations as she labored by his side_____, we love you and we want you now to know how much we all appreciate the kindness you bestow. It is not always easy to become a pastor's wife; for you not only hear the good, but often see the strife. You counsel with your husband, holding up his hands with prayer; you sympathize with people, ministering to their care. And when God rewards your husband in that place so glorified, I'm sure He'll compensate the woman by his side.

NAME WITHHELD BY REQUEST

NEWS & NOTES

Eastern District Essay Winner



Holly Gray Lamm

Miss Holly Gray Lamm, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Lamm, 1720 Racetrack Road, New Bern, was first place winner in the Eastern District Essay competition at the Free Will Baptist Youth Convention held March 18 at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. She was awarded a plaque and a check and will compete in the state contest in April. Holly is a member of St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church in New Bern.

West Clinton Church Announces Revival

The West Clinton Free Will Baptist Church, Clinton, is having a revival during the week of April 24 through 28. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Mike Scott of Garner. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. Special singing will be rendered. The Rev. Hubert Stanley and membership of the church cordially invite everyone to attend.

Western Conference Board Of Ordination Meets

The Western Conference Board of Ordination will meet on Tuesday, April 18, at 7 p.m. at the First Original Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson. All persons having business with the Board please contact the Rev. Clyde Cox, chairman, and inform him of the nature of your business.

We urge our Conference churches to clear a prospective pastor with the Board of Ordination prior to hiring. This is in accord both with our Conference Constitution and By-laws and the tradition of our denomination!

The Rev. Frank Flowers of Goldsboro has met with the Board of Ordination and his credentials are now valid. He is a member in good standing with the Western Conference and available for work.

De W. Eakes, Clerk
Western Conference Board of Ordination

Revival Planned at Hillsberry Church



The Rev. DeWayne Eakes

Revival services will be held at Hillsberry Free Will Baptist Church, in Clinton, beginning Monday, April 24, and continuing through Friday night, April 28. Services will begin nightly at 7:30.

The Rev. DeWayne Eakes of Lucama will serve as the evangelist. He is a former pastor of the church, and since his work there he has held various positions in the denomination. He has been pastor of the Little Rock church in Lucama for nine years. He has served as clerk of the Western Conference Board of Ordination. He has served as faithfully with the Cragmont Board of Directors, and a member of the State Convention "Faith and Discipline Revision Committee."

He has an Associate in Arts degree from Mount Olive College, Bachelor of Arts degree from Atlantic Christian College, and a Master of Divinity degree from Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest.

The pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Parker, invites everyone to share in these services with the people of Hillsberry church.

Fourth Central Union District to Meet

The Fourth Central Union District will convene at Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Edgecombe County, on April 30, 1978. The scheduled program is as follows:

Morning Session

10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "Saviour Like A Shepherd Lead Us"
Welcome, Mrs. Ed Walston
Response, Joyce Corbett
11:15—President's Remarks
Mission Report
Greetings From The Children's Home
Mount Olive College News
11:30—Special Music, La Grange Youth Choir
Sermon, The Rev. L. B. Manning
Appointment of Committees
12:15—Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:15—Hymn, "When We All Get To Heaven"
Devotion, Donald Webb
Special Music, Saratoga Church
Business Period
Program, Local Church
2:15—Adjournment

Rosebud Church Announces Revival



The Rev. Everette Harper

Revival services will be held at the Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, Route 4, Wilson, beginning April 24, and continuing through April 28. Prayer room opens at 7:30 p. m., with worship services beginning at 7:45 p. m. The Rev. Everette Harper of Deep Run will serve as the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. Jack Burnett, invites everyone to attend these services.

Spring Revival Planned At Barnes Hill

Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church will hold its spring revival the weekend of April 21-23. The Rev. Larry Melton, from the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, will be the guest evangelist. The Friday and Saturday evening services will begin at 7:45, with a prayer room open at 7:30. The revival will continue into the Sunday morning service at 11, and will conclude with the Sunday evening service at 7 p.m. A prayer room will be open prior to the Sunday evening service as well. There will be special music each night.

The church is located just two miles off Highway 58 at Sandy Cross, in Nash County.

The pastor, the Rev. Donald Coates, and the entire church invite everyone to come out and be a part of their revival.

State Youth Fellowship Convention Plans Announced

The State Youth Fellowship Convention will convene Saturday, April 22, at 9:30 a. m. with the Beaverdam Free Will Baptist Church, Chadbourn.

Special music will be featured by the New Creations of Mount Olive College. Also, the election of officers for the coming year will be announced.

Come! Bring a friend! Enjoy the day filled with inspiration and fellowship. Let's see if we can have a thousand young people there.

Mrs. David W. Hansley
State Youth Chairman

First Church, Wilson Announces Revival



Revival services will be held at the First Free Will Baptist Church on the corner of Granger and Barnhill Streets in Wilson, April 24-28. Evangelist will be the Rev. Marvin Waters, pastor of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church in Pinetown. There will be special singing each evening with the services beginning at 7:30.

The pastor, the Rev. Clyde W. Cox, extends an invitation to everyone to come for these services.

Fifth Eastern Union Meeting to Convene

The Gethsemane Original Free Will Baptist Church in Craven County, 11 miles west of New Bern, on Highway 70, will host the Fifth Eastern Union Meeting on Saturday morning, April 30, at 10 a. m. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
10:05—Devotion. Harry Bryan
10:15—Welcome, the Rev. Lonnie Mann
10:20—Response, Whitford Gaskins
10:20—Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. Ralph Sumner
10:30—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Receive Church Letters
—Offering for Children's Home
—Appointment of Committees
10:45—Denominational Enterprise Reports
11:15—Business Session
—Old Business
—New Business
—Reports of Committees
—Library Book
11:30—Memorial Service
—Worship Service
—Hymn, Congregation
—Message, the Rev. Joe Moore
—Lunch
—Fellowship

The officers of the Fifth Union Meeting are: the Rev. Ralph Sumner, moderator; the Rev. Calvin Heath, assistant moderator; and Mrs. Harvey Whitford, secretary.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. N. D. Wiggs Jr. announces that he will be available for second and fourth Sundays beginning July 1. Any Pulpit Committee desiring his services may contact him by writing the Rev. N. D. Wiggs Jr., 23 Crescent Drive, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or calling him at 523-5243.

WHEN WE DO WRONG

JOEY was a young boy who lived in a small town. Joey had a mother and a father. He also had an older sister and a little baby brother. Joey liked to play outside very much. In the summer, he never wanted to come inside. When it was cold outside, occasionally, he could talk his mother into allowing him to go out into the yard if it was a sunny day. There was one rule that Joey was always supposed to obey. He was never supposed to leave the yard.

When Joey's mother made this rule, she did not make it to be ugly to Joey. She did it for his own good. There were many things that could happen to a small boy if he strayed from the yard. A car might run over him or he might become lost. A strange dog might bite him, or he might get hurt and not be able to get home. Joey's mother knew any of these things, or many more might happen to her little boy. If Joey had thought about it, he would have realized this too. Sometimes when Joey was angry, he would tell himself that Mother made this rule to be mean to him.

One sunny morning in winter, Joey was out in the yard. Just across the street was a good friend of Joey's. Joey liked very much to play with Susie. After Joey had played in his yard awhile, he decided to go to Susie's house. Just as he started across the street, he remembered his mother's rule to never leave the yard. He stopped a minute to think about it, but decided to take a chance. Out of the yard he slipped.

In just a minute, Joey was in Susie's yard playing. He enjoyed playing with Susie. The time passed quickly. They were so busy playing that they did not even realize it was lunchtime.

About this time, Joey's mother was getting lunch ready. It was almost ready when she began to wonder what Joey was doing. Usually, he would come in and ask for something to eat, but this morning he had not come in. Just before she put the food on the table, she went to the door to call Joey in to wash for lunch. She called, but Joey did not come. As she stepped out into the yard, she called again. Still there was no answer. She began to worry about what had happened to Joey. She looked all around the yard, but still could not find him. Now she was really beginning to worry. Joey stepped into the street, she saw Joey in Susie's yard. So that is where Joey had been all morning. Once more she called. This time Joey heard her!

When Joey looked up and saw his mother, he remembered the rule he had broken. Now Joey felt like crying. He knew he would have to be punished because he had broken a rule.

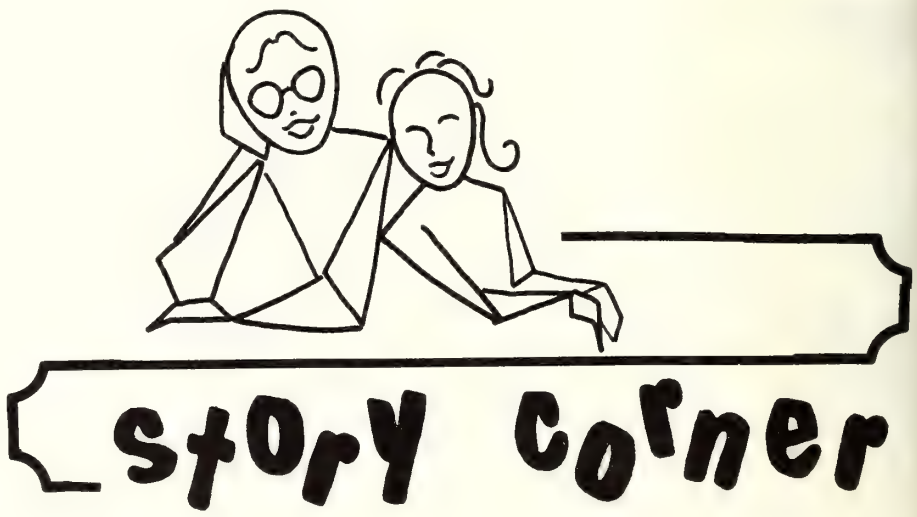
Sometime or other we have all broken some rule our parents have made. We did not break it just to be ugly, but we did know to do better. Always when we break rules we deserve to be punished. Sometimes our parents punish us and sometimes they do not, but they always forgive us because they love us.

God has made some rules by which we should live. When we break these rules, we **sin**. We deserve to be punished. Our Bible verse for today tells us that all of us have broken some of the rules at sometime or other. Jesus told us that the greatest rule was to love God with all our hearts, minds, and souls. The second greatest commandment is to love other people as much as we love ourselves.

We should love God completely. He should always be the most important person to us. If He is, we will be much nicer boys and girls. We will know what He wants us to do and we will do exactly that. You might ask just how you can do this. No one can tell you. This is something you will have to find for yourself. The only thing anyone can tell you is to try your best always.

Usually, a good way to tell how much we love God is to notice the way we treat other people. We should be kind and unselfish. If we are careful to treat others nicely, we will show just how much we love God.

Anytime we break one of God's rules or do not try our very hardest, we deserve punishment. Jesus came to earth and died on the Cross to keep us from having to be punished. All we must do is tell God we are sorry and ask Him to forgive us. Whenever we ask, He forgives us right then and never again will He remember that we broke that rule. How wonderful it is that God will forgive us!—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**



Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475,
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: What do speakers mean when they speak of loving God?

Answer: If I should speak of loving God I would have in mind something the Bible teaches us when in the first commandment it says: "And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might" (Deuteronomy 6:5). Jesus gave us the sure test of sincerity of some one saying that he loved Him: "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1 John 5:1-4); compare, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever" (1 John 2:15-17); "Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight, And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us" (1 John 3:21-24).

Loving God the Father and loving His Son Jesus Christ our Saviour and loving all Christians and obeying Christ, that is the thing the Bible teaches us to obey, go hand in hand. We are not able to do the one apart from the others. We are saved by faith in Christ, we are kept by the same continued faith or belief in Christ as God's only begotten Son. We walk and live by faith "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:7-9).

Jesus is the Light of the world, the living and abiding Light. "In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not" (John 1:4, 5); "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).

When we walk in the light according to 1 John 1:7, we walk in the conscious presence of Christ Jesus or perhaps better put: we walk in Him for all Christians live and move and have their being in their Lord. They are the members of His Spiritual body. "For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring" (Acts 17:28); "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones" (Ephesians 5:30).

Dr. Fitzwater used to quote a little jingle in his Moody Bible Institute classes to help bring this truth home to us as follows: "Near oh so very near to God, nearer I could not be for in the person of His Son, I am as near as He. Dear, oh, so very dear to Him for in the Person of His Son I am as dear as He."

George H. Sandison answers a similar question as follows in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered:**

"The duty and privilege of loving God become clear and simple when we think of Christ. Aside from him, the human conceptions of God are such that it is difficult to realize just what it would mean to love him. But friendship for Christ can be very real and precious. This is a definite part of God's whole wonderful plan. He came to earth in the person of Jesus and won just a few friends. These men and women loved him ardently. They loved him as a companion and friend. When he had gone away they loved him with the same definiteness and intensity and felt that he was still with them. Paul, who had never seen him in the flesh, loved him with just the same passion and fervor as did Peter and John, who had seen him. And all these early Christians knew that in loving Jesus they were loving God. As Professor Herrmann of Marburg says: 'In their minds all difference between Christ and God himself vanished.' He was God; they knew it. And as they loved him and labored for him and went toward death for him, they knew that they were fulfilling the old command, that had been so strange and difficult before, to love the Lord their God with all their heart and with all their soul and with all their mind and with all their strength. This same experience is possible today for every believer. Christ can be to every one of us that ever present Friend in whose companionship we delight and for whom we live and should be willing to die."

ATTENTION!

The Revision Committee on the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet at the Press, May 1, at 10 a. m.

Bill Futch, Secretary

TRY

GOD

FIRST!

VOLUNTEER CHOIR WORKSHOP

Little Rock Original Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, is hosting a workshop for the volunteer choirs of churches in the area who wish to participate. The workshop will begin on Thursday, April 27, at 7:30 p. m. It will continue on May 4, 11, and 17, and conclude on May 25.

The format will be as follows: There will be a 45 minute teaching/discussion session, a break with light refreshments provided by the host church, and a second 45 minute singing session (group singing). The cost for the entire five sessions will be $12 per person. Maybe your local church will pay one-half or some part of the cost to enable your faithful volunteer choir members to improve their talents.

Please notify us by mail, Little Rock Original Free Will Baptist Church, P. O. Box 298, Lucama, North Carolina 27851; or phone 239-0361, as to the number of participants who will attend from your church. This is to enable us to have sufficient copies of music available and to aid in planning the refreshments. We anticipate a very good response!

Miss Gail Ball will be the instructor for the workshop. She is director of music at Daniels Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church and teaches music in the Rocky Mount Public School system. Miss Ball is a graduate of Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College. She is very talented and well qualified to lead this workshop. She is originally from the First Original Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston.

We urge you to come take advantage of this fine opportunity. We look forward to hearing from your choir and having you with us.

Yours in His service,
DeW. Eakes, Pastor

FREE WILL BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO MEET

The Free Will Baptist Historical Society will have its semi-annual meeting Saturday, April 22, at 10 a. m. at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church.

The program will focus on the Ayden Free Will Baptist Seminary and Eureka College, which represented the earliest attempts by Free Will Baptists to provide education for laymen and ministers. Some of the alumni of these two institutions will give accounts of their student years and Dr. Michael Pelt will present a brief history of the institutions.

Also included in the program is a visit to the Ayden Cemetery to the graves of some of those instrumental in establishing and provideing early leadership to the Ayden Seminary.

The program represents another attempt of the Society to broaden Free Will Baptists' understanding of their early institutions and leaders, so please make a special effort to attend another significant day in our history. Lunch will be served, at a nominal cost, by the Women's Auxiliary of the Ayden church.

If you have not paid your annual membership dues, you are reminded that they are now due and may be paid at either the meeting or by mail to our treasurer, Miss Louise Edgerton, Route 2, Pikeville, North Carlina 27863.

I look forward to seeing you on April 22.

Sincerely,
Kenneth W. Dilda, Secretary
Route 4, Box 550
Mount Olive, NC 28465

Editorial . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

selling campaign for the cause of brotherhood and enlightenment; and soon the roots are set, and Master Moon has a foothold.

Sun Myung Moon and his Unification Church are dangerous. Some of the fortunate few who have undergone "deprogramming" attest to the corruptible seeds the man sows. Quite adamantly, he affirms, "I am a thinker. I am your brain."

Don't let him convince you!

Children's Home

SUMMER VACATION FOR CHILDREN

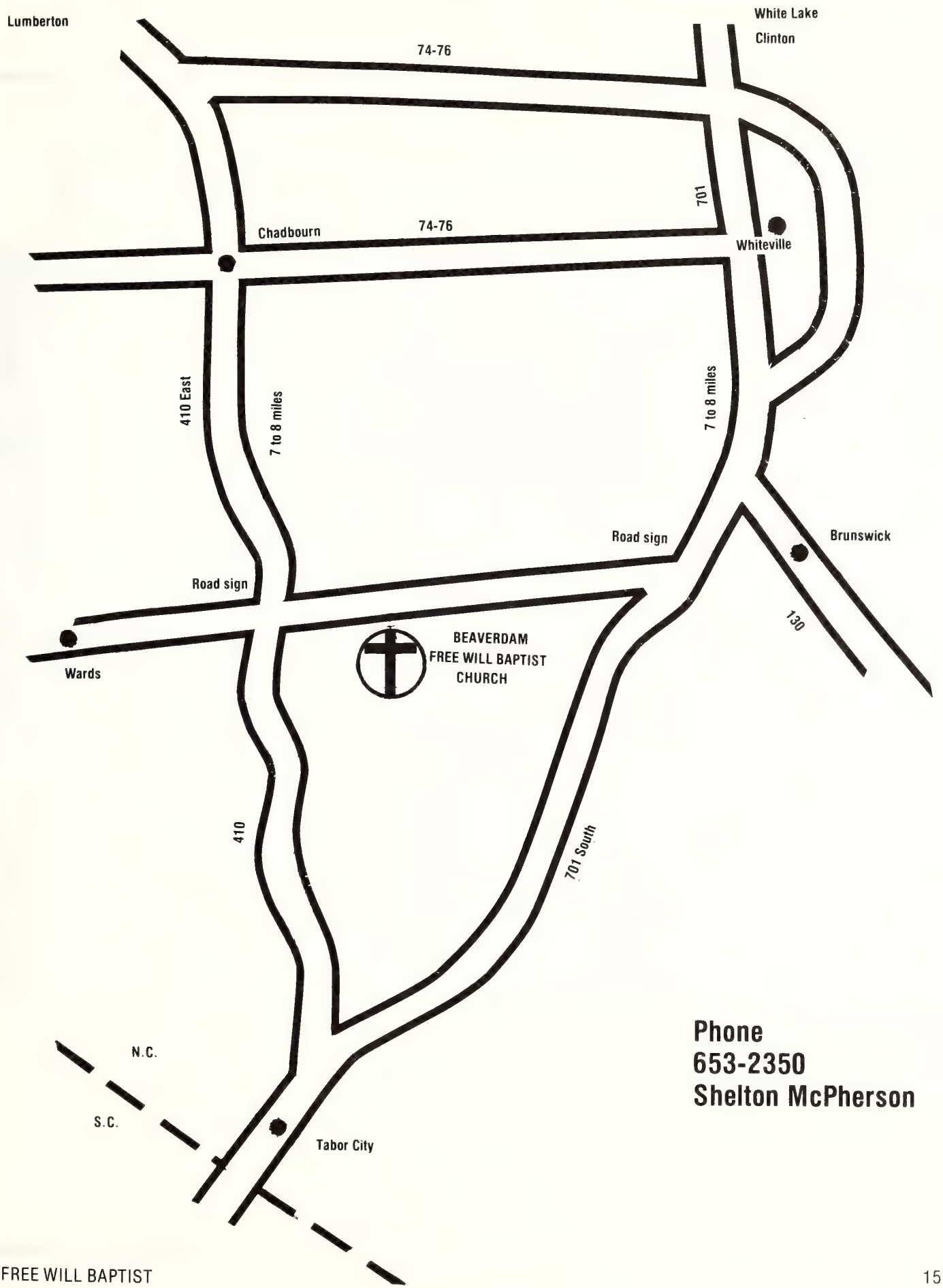
Each year at the end of school our children have taken two consecutive weeks of summer vacation. After much thought we decided to change this practice. We felt a change was necessary because two consecutive weeks is a long period of time for the children to be away. We realized that it caused some inconveniences to our visiting families, sponsors, and relatives. Also, by separating these weeks, the child will have a vacation before a new school year begins in the fall.

The first week of summer vacation will be June 16 to 25. The second week of vacation will be observed during August 4 to 13.

Any questions you have concerning these changes should be sent to the Director of Child Care. May God bless each of you for the interest you have shown to us.

IF CHRIST DOES NOT SEEM TO BE THE ANSWER, PERHAPS YOU HAVE NOT BEEN LISTENING WELL!

NORTH CAROLINA STATE YOUTH CONVENTION



Phone
653-2350
Shelton McPherson

CALLING ALL WOMEN

To A Cragmont Rally

At

Spring Hill
Free Will Baptist Church

Goldsboro, Highway 70 West

Sunday, April 30

At 3:00 P. M.

Followed by Coffee Time
At 5:00 P. M.

D.S.
F857W

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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DURHAM, N. C.

CHURCH OF THE MONTH



HICKORY CHAPEL
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Route 4, Ahoskie

The Rev. Robert May, Pastor

Editorial . . .

MORE ABOUT MOON

In last week's editorial, we discussed the Moon cult and the Unification Church and some associated dangers. We only touch the surface. There are numerous other threats that need exploring, but we can touch only a few.

Consider the indoctrination of members. It smacks loudly of communistic brainwashing, though Sun Myung Moon himself insists that one of his primary aims is to "undermine Communism."

What he *says* and what he teaches his disciples to *do* are two different things. As it regards recruiting, he is only interested in what he refers to as "selectives." He goes after the young, the bright, the well-educated middle-class youngsters. His favorite target is one who is religiously oriented, humble, and submissive to the program. He seems to care very little about recruiting those he's seeking to help (the poor, the sick, or the disadvantaged).

And the program! Defectors describe it this way: The programming consists of incessant verbal bombardment from a disciple who disallows any response from the recruit. The recruit fasts and prays according to a prescribed schedule, and is allowed no more than five hours' sleep at night. Soon the recruit is psychologically conditioned and is brought under "absolute mind control." He then belongs to Moon—body and soul—and falls into a trance, acts very much like a robot, and gives his will to Moon.

It is reported that the *female* recruits undergo a training program similiar to that of the male, with one important difference. They may or may not be chosen as one of those "privileged" to have intimate relations with Moon and undergo "purification." According to a news brief in a state paper, a former confidant of Moon charged him with having illicit relations with more than a hundred females; and he further stated that the church favors, even advocates, promiscuity.

After an acceptable period— a period of grace during which the recruit vows absolute allegiance to Master Moon and his Unification Church—the new *recruit* (now *disciple*) begins his campaign of procuring funds for "the Cause."

One parent whose son became Moon-washed related how his son began pressuring him for money, stocks, cars—any assets that could be converted to cash or turned over to the Moon organization. This procedure is one of the many ways Moon has employed in order to amass the billions of dollars he is purported to be worth.

One of the oddities about the whole deal is that no one can really pinpoint a so-called good cause that Moon has rallied to. He pleads for help for the "orphans, the blind, the disadvantaged, the poor," etc., but it seems that the only one faring well is Moon himself. Even his disciples, in zombie-like obedience, deprive themselves of even the necessities of life and live the "self-denial" Moon teaches.

There is a lot about Moon that we will never know. There is much that we'd prefer not to know. But we do know enough to cause us to consider the damage he is doing and the danger of his church and his doctrine. Some have gone so far as to type him as the Anti-christ.

Despite his claim to have the good of mankind at heart, *I* doubt it. How about you?

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THE HISTORY OF HICKORY CHAPEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Ahoskie, North Carolina
Robert May, Pastor

Information provided by Linda Overton

THE Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church was organized on April 27, 1878, when twelve Christians gathered in the Lawrence Askew School House, led by Elder William H. Slaughter, and under the direction of our wonderful Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. At that time the church was called Christ's Church of the Free Will Baptists.

The following is a direct quote of the original charter: ''In the presence of a notice given by Elder William H. Slaughter met at the School House in District No. 4 in Hertford County and State of North Carolina on Saturday the 27th day of April A.D. 1878 and with the following named persons: John A. Slaughter, William B. Alexander, W. J. Sumner, George Askew, Margaret Chamblee, Mollie Adkins, Sarah Hill, Missouri Perry, then and there organized Christ Church which is called by the Title of the Free Will Baptist and the following officers were selected and elected to the different offices: W. J. Sumner, Deacon, James R. Askew, Clerk, George E. Askew, Treasurer, John A. Slaughter and William B. Alexander, Ruling Elders.''

The Lord called Elder William H. Slaughter as pastor of the new church. The Memorial Circle, which is in front of the church today, was given as a memorial to him by a great-nephew who is a member of this church.

On February 2, 1880, William S. Dilday deeded one acre of land to the church upon the condition that the church house be used at all times as a place of worship, and so it was. A new building was constructed that year and became known as Hickory Chapel of the Original Free Will Baptists. The name ''Hickory,'' we are told, was chosen because of the hickory trees that were there in the yard at that time.

In 1907, the church called the Rev. D.A. Windham as pastor. He was paid $80 a year and held services once a month. His call to be pastor was preceded by a business meeting on Saturday.

The longest continuous service as pastor was held by the Rev. Ernest Postum. During his pastorate, Mr. D. T. Doughtie gave the church more land, and the church was rebuilt and enlarged.

In 1932, under the pastorate of the Rev. Walter Jernigan, Mr. F. T. Doughtie (who was the son of Mr. D. T. Doughtie) gave additional land, and four classrooms were added.

The first homecoming was held the first Sunday in May 1938. That same year, under the pastorate of the Rev. W. L. Moretz, a Free Will Baptist league was organized by the Rev. Clarence F. Bowen.

In 1949, a parsonage for our first full-time pastor, the Rev. A. B. Chandler, was built. The woman's auxiliary was organized while A. B. Chandler was pastor. This group of ladies is still the strong organization in Jesus Christ that it was then. These ladies are responsible for so many wonderful accomplishments in Jesus' name; such as, our youth auxiliaries, our vacation Bible school, and many other accomplishments.

The church continued to grow, and the Lord continued to bless Hickory Chapel church greatly. In 1953, plans were beginning to be made toward the construction of a new church building. On Sunday afternoon, June 8, 1958, a ground-breaking service was held by the Rev. Ralph Osborne, pastor, assisted by the Rev. Walter Reynolds, a former pastor. Construction was begun the following Wednesday, June 11, 1958, under the supervision of Jimmy Williams, chairman; William Dilday; William Liverman; Reuben Slaughter; Lloyd Dilday; and Willard Earley—members of the building committee. The building was completed the last week in November. The first service was held in the church which stands today on Sunday, November 30, 1958.

In 1962, the Lord blessed us more richly when we called the Rev. Robert May as pastor. He brought with him his lovely wife, Sudie May, who is as dedicated to the service of the Lord as he is.

In 1965, the indebtedness of the new church was paid off, and the note was burned during the homecoming service. Since that time, a steeple and baptistry have been added which have made the building more beautiful.

In 1966, the young ladies of the church formed an auxiliary which they named in honor of Sudie May, ''The Sudie May Auxiliary.'' This organization was responsible for the planting of shrubs around the church, the carpeting of the nursery, and many other improvements.

In 1972, the church purchased property located across the highway from the church and constructed a picnic shelter.

Turn the Page

The purchasing of the land in 1972 was truly done under the direction of God, for in 1973 the parsonage was found to be in need of major repairs. It was deemed unwise to make such repairs, so the church voted to construct a new parsonage. Work began that year, and in April 1974, the pastor and his family moved into their new home. Three years later, through God's abundant blessings, we were able to pay off the note on the parsonage. It should also be noted that in July of 1974 the need for a place to hold activities engaged in Christian fellowship was realized, and the old parsonage became known as the ''May Fellowship Hall.'' This was named in honor of the Rev. Robert May and his family.

Hickory Chapel has given two sons to the ministry. They are the Rev. Herman Dilday, who is now deceased; and the Rev. Charlie Overton, pastor of Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church which is located near Roper, North Carolina.

The former pastors of the church are the following: Elder William H. ''Buck'' Slaughter, Elder Vernon, Elder Hill, Elder Tyson, J. T. Butler, C. O. Armstrong, D. A. Windham, E. T. Phillips, J. C. Moye, C. J. Harris, D. W. Alexander, W. G. Boykins, Ernest Postom, W. L. Jernigan, E. C. Morris, W. L. Moretz, R. P. Harris, P. C. Wiggs, J. A. Alexander, A. B. Chandler, Ronald Creech, Walter Reynolds, W. S. Burns, Ralph Osborne, and Johnny Eason. The present pastor is Robert May.

One hundred years have come and gone. From 12 members to 270; from a one-room school house to a beautiful brick structure; from services once a month to ''never having to miss a Sunday.'' All of this because 12 people inspired by God accomplished his will in their lives.

We are proud of this heritage that was left to us by that small number of 12. Yes, they were small, but they were tall in the Lord.

We love this church and the heritage for which it stands. And we hope that with each passing day one will find that the flame from the original torch is kept burning higher, because all of us here at Hickory Chapel church love our Creator, our Lord and Saviour, who made it all possible.

CALLING ALL WOMEN

To A Cragmont Rally

At

Spring Hill
Free Will Baptist Church
Goldsboro, Highway 70 West

Sunday, April 30

At 3:00 P. M.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For May 7

PETER: WORKER OF MIRACLES

Lesson Text: Acts 9:32-43
Memory Verse: John 14:12

I. INTRODUCTION

The title of our lesson for today honors the great apostle Peter, as well it should. The account of the fisherman-disciple is inspiring. His fascinatingly diverse character, unpredictable impetuosity, and later unswerving fidelity mark him as a man whose stature may seldom be equaled. He was a wonderful, willing tool in the building of Christ's kingdom.

Had Peter been born half a century earlier or later, we might never have heard of him. Apart from Jesus Christ, he was but a fisherman. Apart from Jesus Christ, he might never have conquered his temper or his tongue. And, apart from Jesus Christ, he might never have changed his cowardice into indomitable courage. When he finally made his total surrender, the transformation was astounding, illustrating what the power of God can do in human lives if they are willfully submitted to Him.

To read again the account of our Lord's careful, patient development of the character of Peter is a study in inerrant psychology; but it is far more. It is a record of the human-divine encounter. Throughout the Gospels, Peter is Peter, intensely self-willed at first, and humiliated by his denial of the Lord at the last. His true potential is seen in the fully developed and dedicated man of God in the book of Acts. Through him the keys of the kingdom were used twice—on the Day of Pentecost to open the gates to Israel, and in the house of Cornelius to welcome the Gentiles.

At the conclusion of our last lesson we left Saul in Damascus, refreshed from food after fasting and ready to go forth in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ as an ambassador, rather than a persecutor. He preached Christ in the synagogues of the city, amazing those who listened because of his total transformation (Acts 9:21). His reversal astounded and antagonized the Jews of the city, who sought to kill him (v. 23), but his life was spared and he escaped by being lowered down the city wall in a basket and returned to Jerusalem.

Many of the disciples in Jerusalem were not ready to concede the amazing change in Saul's comportment and lifestyle, and mistrusted him. But Barnabas spoke up in his defense, and he bore his witness in the great city. Again Saul's testimony in behalf of Christ caused the enemies of the gospel to adamantly seek his life. Consequently the brethren brought him to Caesarea, and from there they sent him on to his childhood home in Tarsus.

Meanwhile, the persecutors' flames were less fearsome, and Luke tells us, "Then had the churches rest throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified" (v. 31). The reprieve would be only temporary, but the disciples made full use of it. They established themselves in the faith and knew the peace of the indwelling Spirit, while their numbers greatly increased (v. 31). With that, Luke shifts the spotlight in his account to the apostle Peter and tells of some of his activities—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Book of Acts really belongs to Peter and Paul. The first half of the book belongs to the Apostle Peter, and the last half belongs to the Apostle Paul.

B. The church today cannot perform the physical miracles that Peter performed. But there are things that we can do to meet people's physical needs. For example: It is foolish to talk to a man about saving his soul when his body is hungry. The basic ministry of the church is spiritual, but we should not forget people's physical needs.

C. Miracles have been performed in times of transition, when the ages were passing from one dispensation to another. We believe that God is able to perform miracles today, and that sometimes they are performed; but we do not believe that God's servants should be expected to perform miracles the way the apostles did.

D. The greatest miracle is the miracle of life. The church can help bring life to souls that are dead in sin and trespasses, through the preaching of the gospel. Have you ever seen a greater miracle than the regeneration of a lost soul?

E. The gospel message is for all people. It is not just for the downtrodden or lower classes of people. Regardless of their social strata, people are lost without the saving power of Jesus Christ. It is important that the gospel be preached to everyone.

—The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Peter inspired many persons to believe in the Lord when he restored Dorcas to life. We may not be able to raise persons from the dead today, but we can, through the Christian faith, help rebuild human hearts and mend broken spirits.—Roy L. Smith

We can do more than that. Through preaching the gospel, we can raise men from a spiritual death in sin to a new life in Christ Jesus. When we lead a soul to Jesus we are bringing him out of death to walk in the newness of eternal life.

—Selected

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475.
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Please explain, "So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs. He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep. He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep" (John 21:15-17).

Answer: This, according to Chapter 21, Verse 14, was the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He had risen from the dead. Remember that Peter had denied Him just before He was crucified. According to, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:34,35). Jesus had made a strong appeal to His disciples to love each other, saying that this is the way we Christians are to identify ourselves in this sinful world. He also said, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. . . . Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him" (John 14:21, 23).

So, loving Jesus and being loyal to Him in keeping His commandments, which include loving one another and a lost world as Jesus loved it, is the primary hallmark of a Christian and is the basis for answering our prayers. For He also said, "If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love" (John 15:6-10).

C. I. Scofield makes a pertinent comment on this in his Holy Bible on Pages 1136, 37: "To abide in Christ is, on the one hand, to have no known sin unjudged and unconfessed, no interest into which He is not brought, no life which He cannot share. On the other hand, the abiding one takes all burdens to Him, and draws all wisdom, life and strength from Him. It is not unceasing consciousness of these things, and of Him, but that nothing is allowed in the life which separates from Him."

Then there is to be found elsewhere in John's writings further definite confirmation of this truth. "This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:5-7).

Loving Jesus, walking together in the light with Him, loving one another, and together obeying Him as we carry out the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:18-20, assures us of Jesus' abiding presence and watchcare over us, something we indeed stand in need of the whole time we serve Him as ambassadors in this unfriendly world.

We find that the following gives needed light on this vital and all important subject: Pages 130, 131 in **Peloubet's 1968 Selected Notes:**

"In these three verses are three great facts: that Jesus wants more than anything else the love of His disciples; Simon Peter's strong and repeated affirmation that he does love the Lord; and that the Apostle is commissioned to feed the sheep. There are two primary Greek words used in the New Testament for love, **agapao**, and **phileo.** 'The first expresses a more reasoning attachment, from seeing in the object upon whom it is bestowed that which is worthy of regard; or rise from a sense that such is due toward the person so regarded as being a benefactor; while the second, without necessarily an unreasoning attachment, does yet give less account of itself to itself; is more instinctive, is more of the feelings or natural affections, implies more patience.'—R. C. Trench. It is the former word that is generally used in the exhortations to love God (Matthew 22:37, etc.) in the threefold question addressed to Peter, 'Lovest thou me?' In the first two cases our Lord uses the word **agapao**, but 'When all the pulses in the heart of the now penitent apostle are beating with the passionate affection toward his Lord, this word sounds too cold to perfectly express the warmth of his affection toward Him, and therefore in his answer he substitutes for the **agapao** of Christ the word of a more personal love, **phileo**, both in the first answer and the second. When the Lord puts the question to him a third time He then uses **phileo.**'—R. C. Trench

" 'We have said that love to Christ does not impose on all His disciples the duty of a shepherd; showing itself rather in by far the larger number in simply hearing the shepherd's voice and following him, and generally in a willingness to be guided by those who are wiser than themselves. We must add, that all who are animated by the spirit of love to the Redeemer will be either shepherds or sheep, actively useful in caring for the souls of others, or thankfully using the provision made for the care of their own souls. . . . 'The emphatic repetition of this injunction is

very significant. It shows, for one thing, that when Jesus said to Peter, "Feed My sheep," He had no intention of making him a pastor of pastors, a shepherd or bishop over his fellow disciples. How strange that Peter should be checked for looking after one of the flock, and asking so simple a question as that, "Lord, and what shall this man do?" Jesus replies to him as if he were a busybody, meddling with matters with which he had no concern. And, indeed, busybodyism was one of Peter's faults. He was fond of looking after and managing other people; he tried once and again to manage the Lord Himself.'—A. B. Bruce

"Our Lord, however, has not finished His exhortations to the Apostle Peter. The theme now changes, and in symbolic language, as it were, He speaks to Peter about the death that He would die by which He would glorify God. **18 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. 19 Now this he spake, signifying by what manner of death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.** 'The allusion to the time when Peter girded himself and walked whither he would, becomes the expression of that self-will by which, before his present consecration to the service of Jesus, he had been marked. Now, however, his self-will shall be crucified; the old nature which sought only its own gratification shall be completely powerless as is the body of one nailed to a cross; he will be so truly a partaker of the sufferings of Christ as to find in this fellowship with his dying Lord the very **ground and beginning** of his apostolic activity. . . .It is impossible to deny that in these words the Evangelist refers to "death" in the ordinary term . . . . The Evangelist applies Verse 18, in the first instance at least, to the actual crucifixion of Peter. But it is not necessary to suppose that **all** the clauses of the verse refer to the literal crucifixion, or that the meaning of any of them is exhausted by that fact (comp. Chronicles 12:32, 33).'—William Moulton

"Peter once again manifests that characteristic so prominent throughout the Gospels, namely, of talking too much. And when one talks too much, he is likely to say things he will later regret."

Jesus said, "And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:38). When Paul was dedicated to Christ in the sense he had left all to follow Christ he wrote under inspiration. "I die daily" (1 Corinthians 15:31); and "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

It indeed is required of one who would live the kind of life that the Bible says a professed Christian should live, that he be dead to this present world system and its interests; it also requires a resurrection into a newness of life in Christ. The true Christian's experience has brought him through such an experience. "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God" (Romans 6:3-10).

We are not living according to the course of the events of this present world's activities if we are the kind of Christians the Bible says we are to be. We are at enmity with such. We have declared war on all such and are fighting with all our might and main against it, for we are soldiers of the Cross and the Cross symbolizes death. Then, being dead to the world, we are alive in Christ and therefore active in Him, feeding His little lambs with the bread of Life and overcoming the world by evangelizing it; This requires of all Christians that they be instant in season and out of season and always proclaim the word in a Christian life, correctly lived before a lost world. At the same time they must continue to render service in preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ and His kingdom to the lost everywhere, both in the hedges and highways, and in the lanes and the streets of the cities.

VISITING THE WORLD'S SORE SPOTS

Jerry P. Ballard, executive director of the World Relief Commission, (WRC) left the United States on March 5 for a twenty-eight-day tour of places throughout the world where WRC is now involved in caring for victims of tragedies such as floods, earthquakes, etc.

According to Dr. Ballard, one of the most needy places on earth is India, where five months ago cyclones and floods took the lives of 100,000 people, and destroyed the property of millions, and left water pollution which has caused wide-spread disease. WRC is providing over $150,000 for immediate relief.

Dr. Ballard's first stop will be in Japan, where WRC is giving aid to many people in desperate need.

Dr. Everette S. Graffam, who is retiring as Executive Vice President of WRC in June after twenty years of service, will accompany Ballard on some visits to some of the fields of service to assist him in getting acquainted with the work.

The World Relief Commission is now located in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, but will move to Wheaton, Illinois, during this year, where a special building is being erected to house all the agencies of the National Association of Evangelicals.

(Dr. Ballard is the son of the Rev. and Mrs. L. E. Ballard of Greenville, North Carolina.)

NEWS & NOTES

Saints Delight's Auxiliary To Sponsor Bazaar

The Ladies Auxiliary of Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern, will sponsor a spring bazaar on Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m.

They have entitled their bazaar: "Something for Everyone Spring Bazaar." They will have a hot dog and hamburger stand with hot dogs and hamburgers being sold from 10:30 a. m. until they run out or close the bazaar. Other attractions will include a bake shop, general store and booths where you can buy items which have been crocheted, knitted, hand sewn and machine sewn. They will also have A booth of hand crafted articles for your home and handmade ornaments for Christmas decorations.

They entitled their bazaar "Something for Everyone Spring Bazaar" because they truly believe they will have "Something for Everyone" who would like to shop with them. Remember Mother's Day is coming up soon and you might find something special for your mother.

Your support in their efforts will be truly appreciated and they will give God all the praise for their accomplishments. They are looking forward to seeing you at the Bazaar.

Bethany Church to Observe Youth Sunday

Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, will observe youth Sunday, April 30. The youth will have complete charge of the morning worship service. The Spiritual Singers from the Snow Hill Free Will Baptist Church of Mount Olive, will bring special message in song. The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, a ministerial student at Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker. The pastor, the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor, and members extend a warm invitation to this service.

First Union, Western Conference to Convene

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet Saturday, April 29, 1978, with the Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Wayne County. The host pastor, the Rev. Clarence Bowen, and the Union extend a cordial invitation to everyone. The Rev. Roland Cherry, pastor of Micro Free Will Baptist Church, will preach the Union message.

Rains Cross Roads Church Plans Revival

Revival services will begin at Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Kenly, with the 11 o'clock worship service on April 23, and continue Monday through Thursday night at 7:30.

The Rev. Frank Ray Harrison, college chaplain and professor at Mount Olive College, will be the evangelist. The pastor, the Rev. Danny Blackman, and the members invite everyone to attend these services.

"Cragmont," We Did It All For You!

The youth of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, sponsored a Walk-a-thon to raise money for the building fund of Cragmont. The youth and other members of the church had a great time of fellowship as they walked. Over $600 was raised in the Walk-a-thon and with an added offering given by the church, the youth presented to the Rev. Doug Skinner, manager of Cragmont, a total gift of almost $1,200 during the Central District Youth Fellowship Meeting. The pastor, the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor, commended the youth and members on a job well done.

Second Union S.S. Convention and Union Meeting, Rose Hill Church

The Second Union Sunday School Convention and the Second Union Meeting of Original Free Will Baptists will meet April 30, at the Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville. The host pastor is the Rev. N. D. Beaman. The Sunday School Convention begins at 3 p. m. with Bruce Gray as president. The Union Meeting follows with W. R. Harris as moderator. All area churches are invited to attend.

First Church, Plymouth Announces Revival

Revival services will begin on May 1, and continue through May 5, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, located at the corner of West Avenue and Highway 64. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 with special music being provided.

The Rev. Bobby Taylor from Winterville will be the guest speaker, assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Floyd Burkey.

The pastor and members of the church extend a cordial invitation to all to attend.

Emerson Church Shares Blessings

The pastor, the Rev. Hollon Norris, and members of Emerson Free Will Baptist Church would like to share some good news. April 2 through April 8 they held their spring revival. The guest speaker was the Rev. Billy Baker. The Rev. Norris had the privilege to baptize 18 people Sunday afternoon. They also had a total of 8 new memberships added to the church roll. They thank God for the many professions of faith that occurred before and during their revival.

Holly Springs Church Announces Spring Revival

Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, located on Nine Miles Road, Newport, announces its spring revival on Monday, April 24, through Friday, April 28. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

The Rev. M.E. Cox will be the visiting evangelist for the week. There will be special singing and a nursery provided each evening.

The pastor, the Rev. J. B. Starnes, and the congregation extend a special invitation to everyone to attend.

White Oak Church Plans Revival

Revival services will begin at the White Oak Free Will Baptist Church, located eight miles west of Maysville on State Road 1116, Monday, April 23, continuing through Friday, April 28, at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Calvin Heath, pastor of Dublin Grove church, Aurora, will be the evangelist, assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Hillary Gaskins.

Special music will be featured at these services. The church membership and pastor invite everyone to attend.

Oriental Day Of Dedication

The people of Oriental Free Will Baptist Church announce to their friends and neighbors a cause for celebration: **their church building is completely paid for!**

The church members want to share their joy, so the public is invited to dedication services on Sunday, April 30, at the Oriental Free Will Baptist Church, Ragan Road, Oriental, North Carolina.

The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m. The 11 a. m. worship service will include burning of the note on the church and parsonage. The fellowship lunch will then be served on the church lawn, followed by the dedication services.

On Wednesday through Saturday nights, April 26—29, the pastor and deacons will hold prededicatory services. The Rev. Ralph Sumner, pastor, will bring the message on Wednesday, and the deacons will bring the messages the other nights. Special singing is planned for each service.

Because the people have made it happen by their love the people of Oriental church now have an attractive building where all may pray, worship, and fellowship together. They also have a lovely six room parsonage, built during the eight years while they were paying for the church.

Everyone is invited to share the great joy of this occasion with the people of the Oriental church.

Carteret Sunday School Convention to Convene

The Carteret County Sunday School Convention will convene at Beaufort Original Free Will Baptist Mission on Saturday, April 29, 1978, at 5 p.m., followed by the Union Meeting at 6 p.m.

The scheduled program is as follows:

5:00—Devotions, Host Church
5:10—President's Remarks and Appointment of Committees
5:15—Roll Call of Churches and Attendance Check
5:30—Reading of the Minutes
—Treasurer's Report
5:35—Business Session
5:50—Report of Committees and Awarding of Banner
5:55—Break

Union Meeting

6:00—Hymn, Host Church
—Prayer
—Meeting Called to Order
—Moderator's Remarks
—Recognition of Delegates
—Appointment of Committees
—Congregational Hymn and Offering
—Roll Call of Churches and Reading of Church Letter
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Reading of Minutes
6:30—Business Session
—Special Denominational Reports
6:45—Reports of Committees
—Special Announcements
6:50—Congregational Hymn and Special Singing
—Message, the Rev. James Kivett (Alternate, the Rev. Clifton Styron)
7:30—Adjournment

Note: There are lay speakers available who may be called upon by sister churches for morning worship, prayer meeting, or special services. They are:James Gurganus, Route 3, Box 64, Newport, North Carolina 28570; phone, 223-5251; and Robert Coiley 107 Noyes Street, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557; phone, 726-2641.

Verona Church to Host Third Union Meeting

The Third Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference will be held at the Verona Free Will Baptist Church located on Highway 17 South, 7 miles from Jacksonville, North Carolina, at 10 a. m., Saturday, April 29.

SUPPERS PLANNED FOR CAMP VANDEMERE

Some churches in the Eastern Conference have created some friendly rivalry among themselves for the benefit of Camp Vandemere.

Duplin County will be announcing more details soon concerning the dinners for Camp Vandemere. So far, the following dinners are scheduled: Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church on April 27, 1978; Bethelem Free Will Baptist Church on May 6, 1978, (Mt. Zion and Lanier's Chapel are combining with Bethelem.

Other churches in Duplin and Wayne will be announcing their plans soon, so watch for them and support any or all if possible for our Free Will Baptist Camp at Vandemere.



SUNDAY, APRIL 30

Scripture Reading—Exodus 20:10

ALREADY GIVEN

One time a friend was invited to a Scotsman's home for dinner. Tea, of course, was served. When the guest asked that he might have some sugar, the Scotsman said: "Man, the sugar is already in the cup of tea. Stir it up, my friend." We need not so much pray for gifts, as to exercise the gifts God has already given us.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God has given us many gifts of love, if we but look around us to find them.

MONDAY, MAY 1

Scripture Reading—Genesis 31:44

SPEAK TELLINGLY

"Were half the breath oft vainly spent,
To heaven in supplication sent;
Our cheerful song would oftener be,
'Hear what the Lord has done for me!'"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you know what the Lord has done for us? Do you go to sleep in church? Why not wake up!

TUESDAY, MAY 2

Scripture Reading—Matthew 7:21

BETTER THAN A NICKEL

A little girl approached her father and said, "Father, I want a nickel." The father drew out his wallet and offered her a neat five-dollar bill. But the little girl, not knowing what it was, would not take it. "I don't want that," she said; "I want a nickel." Are there times when we deal with our Heavenly Father as this little girl dealt with her earthly father? Do we sometimes ask for some small favor and refuse his offer of a blessing a hundred times more valuable?

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we forget just how powerful Jesus is when He blesses us? His blessings are very powerful and plentiful.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 3:1

CHANGED BY A VISION

Dannaker, the German sculptor, worked for two years on a statue of Christ. It looked finished and perfect to him.

To test it he called into the studio a little girl, and pointing to the statue, asked "Who is that?"

She replied promptly, "A great man."

He turned away disheartened, knowing that he had failed.

But he took his chisel and began anew. For six more long years he toiled, and inviting another little girl into his workshop, he stood her before the figure and said, "Who is that?"

She looked up at it for a moment and the tears began to gather in her eyes as she folded her hands across her breast and said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me."

It was enough. Dannaker knew that his task was done. Then the sculptor confessed that during the weary days of those six years, the Christ had come and revealed Himself to him. He had only transferred to the marble the vision he had seen.

Sometime later Napoleon Bonaparte requested him to make a statue of Venus for the Louvre. But he refused. "A man," he said, "who had seen Christ can never employ his gifts in carving a pagan goddess. My art is henceforth a consecrated thing."

PRAYER THOUGHT

This is the way a changed person should react when he is changed to a Christian from a sinner.

THURSDAY, MAY 4

Scripture Reading—Psalm 89:19

MADE FOR THE SKY ROAD

A little lad, listening to the mythical story of Pagasus, the winged horse, exclaimed, "Why did he go on the dirt road when he was made for the sky road?" Are not all Christians made for the sky road? They are disobedient to the heavenly vision when they travel on the dirt road.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we, as Christians, think God has given us a sky road to travel to Heaven? We have to believe and trust Him.

FRIDAY, MAY 5

Scripture Reading—Psalm 98:1

VICTORY

An Indian, in explaining the conflict of the two natures in man, said, "It seems to me as though two dogs are fighting within me: one is a black dog, and he is very savage and very bad; the other is a white dog, and he is very gentle and very good, but the black dog fights with him all the time." "And which dog wins?" someone asked. Laconically, the Indian replied, "Which ever one I say 'sic him' to!" And it was well put, for if the will is on the side of the evil, the flesh will triumph; but if the will is subdued by grace and subject to the Holy Spirit, the new nature will control.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you have two natures—one fighting for God and the other fighting for Satan? Which one do you obey—God or Satan?

SATURDAY, MAY 6

Scripture Reading—Mark 6:6

SOMETHING TO DIE BY

A young woman who was deeply

convicted felt the weight of her sin and knew that it was separating her from God. She sent for her pastor, who was a godless man. When he arrived, she told him about her condition and that she needed the mercy of God. This man, who had never known the mercy of God, informed the young woman that she had become all excited by overtaxing her mind. He told her that she was all right, and that all she needed was to join the church. She took him at his word and he received her into the church, but only a few months later she again sent for this same pastor. He came into her home, and this time not only found her deeply convicted because of her sin, but also seriously ill. To him she said, "Sir, I trusted you in the matter of my soul's salvation. I united with your church, but now I find that my sin is between me and God. Your religion seemed very well as long as I was physically strong, but now I want something to die by. What will you offer me?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we live by Christ, we will also die by Christ. What a thought! Have you thought about it?

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

MISSIONS

THE GRAVE DANGER IN BURYING OUR TALENTS



by Taylor Hill

When I was about six years old, I decided that I would save my money and get rich at a very early age. It was hard times in those days so I realized right off that this venture was going to take some careful planning. First I realized that I needed a good, sturdy container that would hold and protect my treasure from the outside elements. After many selections, I finally settled on a nice snuff box. After that, I immediately started collecting my wealth. After several months of sacrifice and saving, my treasury rose to seven or eight cents. (If my memory serves me right.) I knew that it would never do for all that money to be left lying around so I started seeking out a good hiding place. I remember the first place I hid it was in the kitchen pantry, but after observing all the traffic in there I knew that it had to be moved. From that time on I moved it so many times until (you guessed it) I forgot where I hid it. To my many days and nights of sorrow, I have never seen my money since. My dream of becoming a business tycoon was completely shattered.

I can see now that I would have been wiser to have invested my money in something really worthwhile such as a good cold 12 oz. Pepsi Cola and a couple of Mary Jane candy bars or perhaps spent it all on B-B-Bats.

Well, enough for the humor even though I said it to make a point. I have spent many years serving my denomination on the conference and convention level: and there is one fact that stands out in my mind as a main hindrance to our progress as a denomination, and that is buried talents. On one hand I see how our denominational enterprises are slowed down to a crawl because of the lack of concerned people and financial support. On the other hand, I see our people with more education, knowledge, and wealth than ever before in history. It is appalling to me to hear of individuals, churches, and organizations within our ranks bragging about their large treasuries while they lie buried and literally every facet of our work is pleading for help. I think we really need to be revived to do more good works with the talents that we already possess.

I hope our readers will read what Jesus has to say about buried talents in St. Matthew Chapter 25. I challenge all of our readers to read the whole chapter of Matthew 25 today. I also challenge all of our readers to empty all those snuff boxes, cigar boxes, kitchen canisters, sugar sacks, and pay the Lord what belongs to Him. I also challenge our churches and conferences to empty your treasuries and place it into God's service where it belongs. April is Home Missions and Church Extension month. We need your support. Many individuals and churches are faithful to our common cause but not all.

MOUNT OLIVE

"JESUS THE SOLID ROCK" CELEBRATION MAY 6



The Hopper Brothers and Connie of Madison, North Carolina, is one of the groups appearing at the Christian Music Festival Saturday, May 6, at Eagles Nest Conference Center beginning at 9:30 a.m. The public is invited and admission is free.

The Festival which is themed "Jesus Christ, the Solid Rock" will feature such groups as: Heaven Bound from Kinston; the New Life Singers from Wilson; the Gospel Chargers from Winterville; The Covenant Trio from Mount Olive and the New Creations from Mount Olive College.

The purposes of this event are to proclaim the name of Jesus through song and testimony and to provide an opportunity for good Christian fellowship. Make your plans now to join us on that day. Fill up your cars and buses and share in this celebration of praise.

Lunch will be catered by Wilber's Barbecue of Goldsboro at $2.50 a plate. Picnic lunches are welcome.

COLLEGE CHORUS TO PERFORM

The Mount Olive College Chorus, directed by Mrs. Irene Patten will perform in the Farmville Methodist

(Continued on Page 15)

EASTERN DISTRICT YOUTH DISPLAY TALENTS

They came from all over—227 young people, sponsors, ministers, and visitors—to attend the Eastern District Youth Convention at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Pink Hill on March 18, 1978.

They displayed a myriad of talents:

Marla Ard, piano; Craig Ham, bass guitar; and Todd Ard, drums; from Christian Chapel church showed their musical talent, as did those who participated in special singing. These included: Brenda Parks from First church in Kinston, soloist; groups from Saint's Delight church in New Bern and Sandy Plain church in Pink Hill; and the Christian Chapel Youth Choir. They are all due special THANKS for making the convention more enjoyable.

The YFA and AFC Essay and Declamation winners showed off their speaking and writing talents. They were as follows: Holly Lamm from St. Mary's church in New Bern, first place AFC essay; Bonnie Bercaw from Arapahoe church, first place YFA declamation; Toni Murray, also from Arapahoe church, first place YFA essay; and Teresa Mann from Gethsemane church in New Bern, second place YFA essay.

The Bible Bowl Quiz winners, who were also from Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, gave an outstanding display, answering questions about Free Will Baptist Doctrine and Church History. The team consisted of Bonnie Bercaw, Robby Jones, and Steve Lee.

Two young people were elected to run for State Youth officers; Joe Ard was selected to run for president and Teresa Mann was selected to run for financial secretary. The first two qualifications for running for state office are to be a Christian and to maintain a C average in school.

These District Officers attended the convention: Joe Ard (Christian Chapel church), president; Brenda Parks (First church, Kinston), assistant secretary; Margaret Ard, Eastern District Youth Chairman; and Susan Smith (Smith's New Home church), recording secretary. The officers are owed a THANK YOU for a great job.

God's richest blessings are asked upon those who attended the convention and helped make it a success, and Christian Chapel church is thanked for the hospitality. Margaret Ard, Eastern District Youth chairman, says she is looking forward to seeing each one at the fall convention on Saturday, September 16, at 10 a.m., at Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church. Smile, God loves us.

ALBEMARLE MEETINGS

The Albemarle Conference will hold its Union, Sunday School, and League Convention meetings at the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Roper, on April 29, 1978.

Schedules for the programs, which will be consecutive, are as follows:

Union Meeting

Opening Session

10:00—Devotions, Rev. Robert May
10:10—Welcome, Rev. Billy Reynolds
—Response, Rev. L. E. Ambrose
10:15—Moderator's Address, Rev. Charlie Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time

Business Session

10:40—Report of Children's Home, via literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, via literature
—Report of Missions, via literature
—Report of Press, via literature
—Report of Cragmont, via literature
—Memorial Service, Mrs. Darline Oliver
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes of Last Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

Morning Worship

11:10—Hymn
11:20—Special Music, Host Church
11:25—Message, Rev. Billy Reynolds
12:00—Benediction
—Adjournment and Lunch

Sunday School Convention

Opening Session

1:30—Devotions, Rev. Melvin Moore
1:40—Welcome, Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Harold Patrick
—Response, Rev. Francis Garner
1:45—President's Message, Rev. Billie Reynolds
2:05—Enrollment of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches and Delegates
—Bringing Reports and Receiving Blanks
—Announcements
—Offering for Children's Home
—Offertory Prayer
2:10—Suggestions and Information for the Betterment of Sunday Schools

Business Session

2:15—Minutes of Last Convention Read for Information
—Treasurer's Report
—New Business
—Minutes Read and Approved

Afternoon Worship

2:30—Special Music, Host Church
2:40—Benediction and Adjournment

League Convention

7:30—Devotions, Miss Kimberly Oliver
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Loyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music, Host Church
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention

(Continued on Page 15)



Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, NC

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY
TREASURER'S REPORT
MARCH, 1978

Balance Brought Forward March 1, 1978		$ 2,228.61
Receipts		
Albemarle District		
Shiloh	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
Cape Fear District		
Casey's Chapel	50.00	
Lee's Chapel	465.00	
Sunday School	62.18	
Pleasant Grove	100.00	
Smithfield, First	50.00	
Tee's Chapel	100.00	
Victory	64.29	
Wooten's Chapel	67.60	959.07
Eastern District		
Arapahoe	175.00	
Bethlehem		
Mrs. Elizabeth Raynor	30.00	
Crab Point	15.00	
Dublin Grove	20.00	
Fifth Union	15.00	
Grants Chapel	50.00	
Mount Zion, Pamlico County	25.00	
Sound View	50.00	
White Oak Grove	543.00	923.00
Central District		
Daniels Chapel	500.00	
Dilda's Grove Sunday School	81.77	
Elm Grove	436.48	
Fourth Union	18.20	
Hugo	50.00	
Marlboro		
Shelby Bradshaw	47.47	
Otter's Creek Sunday School	11.76	
Spring Branch	15.00	
Tarboro, First	150.00	
Winterville	126.00	
Sunday School	79.06	1,515.74
Western District		
Elwood Lane	200.00	
Fellowship	50.00	
Free Union, Nash County		
Mr. and Mrs. L. Duncan	20.00	
Fremont Auxiliary	25.00	
Milbournie	23.00	
Piney Grove	30.00	
Pleasant Grove	325.00	
Pleasant Plain	150.00	
Pleasant Plain Youth	1,010.00	
Saint Mary's	125.00	
Sherron Acres	300.00	
Stancil's Chapel		
Sunday School	50.00	
Unity, Durham	25.00	$2,333.00
Others:		
Six 1978 Camp Deposits	150.00	150.00
Total Receipts		$ 5,980.81
Transfer of Funds to Wilson Bank		2,564.34
Total for Which to Account		$10,773.76

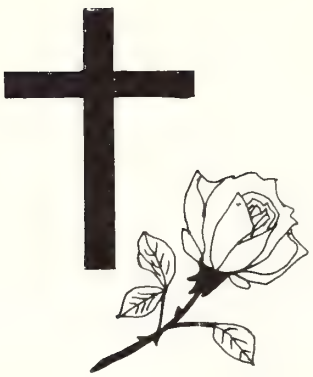
Disbursements

Operational Expenses	$ 804.21	
Winterville Insurance Agency	79.00	
Burress Insurance Agency	338.65	
Transfer of Funds to Main Building Fund	1,415.00	
Transfer of Funds to General Savings	2,666.41	
Transfer of Account to Wilson Bank	2,564.34	
Total Disbursements		$ 7,867.61
Balance on Hand, April 1, 1978		$ 2,906.15

Earmarked Funds

Main Building Fund	$53,898.18
General Savings	2,666.41
General Fund	2,906.15
Total in Bank	$59,470.74

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer
Route 1
Sims, North Carolina 27880



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

The special moment of my life came ten years ago in California. We had lost all we owned in the way of material things in a household fire. I was sitting in a very empty house on borrowed furniture when the dazzling light of the presence of Jesus seemed to fill the hallway. Jesus said, ''I am sufficient for you. Be nothing for me.''

At that moment my life, my priorities, my goals, and my relationships all changed. Jesus is alive! He is my personal Lord and Saviour. Out of gratitude for what He did for me, I commit my life into His hands for His purposes. The life given gave me new life in Him, and I can never cease praising Him.

NAME WITHHELD
Goldsboro, N.C.

Woman's Auxiliary

NORTH CAROLINA STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The 1978 North Carolina State Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church in Pinetown on Thursday, May 4, 1978.

The theme for this fifty-first session, which is sponsored by the Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention, is ''**Be Thou an example.**'' It is based on the Scripture, ''. . . be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversion, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity'' from 1 Timothy 4:12.

Lunch will be catered at $2.50 per plate. Tea and dessert will be furnished by the local auxiliaries of the Albemarle Conference.

Directions for getting to the church are as follows: For those coming from the south and west of Washington, follow Highway 264 East approximately 16 miles from the last stoplight in Washington, going toward Belhaven; turn left on State Road 1611 and follow it for one mile; turn left; the church is on the right. For those coming from the north (Plymouth), follow Highway 32 south for approximately 20 miles from Plymouth; turn left on State Road 1609. The church is 5 miles down on the left.

Free Union church and the Albemarle Conference invite you to a grand day of fellowship and worship.

This is the proposed schedule for the program:

Morning Session

9:30—Advanced Registration
10:00—Hymn 30, ''Breathe On Me''
—Invocation
—''Be Thou An Example in Devotions''; Mrs. Edna Fowler
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Frank Daw
—Response, Mrs. Stephen Coleman
10:20—Greeting, Mrs. Rachel Duncan, President
10:25—Recognition of Personalities
10:30—Business Session
10:40—''Be Thou An Example of Our You''; Mrs. David W. Hansley
10:50—Life Membership Award, Mrs. David W. Hansley
11:15—Morning Worship
—Hymn 179, ''Take Time to Be Holy''
—Offering
—Special Music, The New Day Spirituals
—Convention Message, ''Be Thou An Example''; Mrs. Bruce Barrow
—Hymn 158, ''Have Thine Own Way, Lord''
12:00—Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:00—Hymn 219, ''He Lives''
—Afternoon Devotional, Mrs. Fred Johnson
—Special Music, The New Day Spirituals
1:15—Memorial Service, Mrs. Gary Bailey
1:25—Miscellaneous Business
—Report of Committees
2:20—Installation of Officers, Mrs. William Dale
2:30—Adjournment
Hymn 8, ''Amazing Grace'' (as the Benediction)
—Pianist, Mrs. Jan Haskett
—Organist, Mrs. Karen Clayton
—Music Director, Mrs. Hulda Kinlaw

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. N. D. Wiggs Jr. announces that he will be available for second and fourth Sundays beginning July 1. Any Pulpit Committee desiring his services may contact him by writing the Rev. N. D. Wiggs Jr., 23 Crescent Drive, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or calling him at 523-5243.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

DO BELIEVERS HAVE THE POWER TO HEAL THE SICK?

by the Rev. Graham Faucette,

Kenly North Carolina

Because many are refusing to take their stand on the Word of God for fear of persecution and loss of popularity, much controversy has developed over the question—Do believers have the power to heal the sick?

In the 10th Chapter of Matthew Jesus called twelve men to help in the great work of bringing the gospel to mankind. There was nothing in their personality that set them apart from other men. Matthew said, "when He had called unto him his twelve disciples He gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease" (Matthew 10:1). It wasn't a theological commission to pray for the sick, but He gave them power, power to heal all manner of sickness and disease, and to cast out every devil.

What was the command of Christ? Again He said, "And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:7,8). He didn't say go pray for the sick, He said go heal the sick. These ordinary men through a commission of Jesus Christ, through an impartation of divine power, were able to go forth and cast out devils, heal the sick, cleanse the leper and raise the dead. Then Jesus appointed another seventy (Luke 10:1). Thsese were just ordinary men also. but He called them and gave them power to deliver the sick and afflicted. As He commissioned them He said, . . . "and into whatsoever city ye enter heal the sick therein, and say unto them, the kingdom of God has come nigh you" (Luke 10:9).

These men were being equipped for a ministry. They were not going out merely to pray for the sick. They were not going out to justify failures and evade the responsibility of their positions, but they were going out as representatives of Jesus Christ, as citizens of the Kingdom of God. They were going into a world filled with bondage and oppression, and they were being commissioned and empowered to deliver men. Jesus said, "Behold I give you power, . . . over all the power of the enemy. . ." (Luke 10:19).
Along with this endowment of power came the command to heal the sick.

It is true that God is the author of all healing, but is that power imparted to believers so they can heal the sick? "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name they shall cast out devils,. . . they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mark 16:17, 18).

Look at the third chapter of Acts, Jesus had been crucified, had arisen and ascended back to Heaven. The disciples were alone now, facing unbelief, sin, sickness and devils.

The Scriptures tell of Peter and John going into the Temple at the ninth hour to pray. "And a certain man, lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms. And Peter fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us" (Acts 3:2-4).

What a contrast this is to some of the side-stepping statements we hear today. Peter knew that this thing he was about to do might cause him to be thrown into jail, but Peter saw a lame man that was in need of help, and he said, "look on us." "And he gave heed unto them expecting to receive something of them. Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have, give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately, his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up: stood, and walked, and entered with them into the Temple, walking and leaping and praising God" (Acts 3:5-8).

How did Peter heal this man? Did he do it by evading his responsibility? Did he say, "I have no power to heal"? No,

ALBEMARLE MEETING

(Continued from Page 12)

—Business Period
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Adjournment
—Pianist, Mr. Craig Oliver

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 11)

Church on Sunday, April 30, at the 11 a.m. worship service.

Sunday evening at 7:30 the Chorus will present a program in the First Baptist Church on Mount Olive.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Bethel on Sunday, April 30, at the 11 a.m. worship service.

The Rev. Hubert Burress is pastor.

ADDRESS CORRECTION

We have been informed by the Rev. Harry A. Jones that his address is as follows: The Rev. Harry A. Jones, Route 1, Box 430, Dover, N.C. 28526; phone (office) 527-3262; (home) 527-8459.

TV STATION TO BROADCAST FWB ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

GTG, the Christian Broadcasting Television Station operating on Channel 13 in Goldsboro, North Carolina, will broadcast the Two Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration of the Original Free Will Baptist Church on Sunday, April 30, from 4-5 p. m. The program was taped at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, on November 22, 1977, and should prove of interest to all Free Will Baptists. Make a point of watching the coverage of this historic event.

(Continued from Page 15)

Peter said, "Such as I have give I thee." He didn't ask the man if he believed in divine healing. He didn't ask him anything about his theology. He didn't ask any questions that might be used as an excuse for failure. Peter knew that he personally had become a repository of the power of the almighty God, and as a representative of Jesus Christ; and this power was his to release, so he said, "such as I have give I thee."

He took him by the hand, and divine power flowed from Peter's hand into the hand of the man. That power was so creative, that the man was healed. When one becomes a transmitter of divine power, a receptacle in which God can deposit His healing virtue, he has become a real believer.

Let's look at the 5th Chapter of Acts, "And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people. . .Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about Jerusalem bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits, and they were healed everyone" (Acts 5:12-16). Notice that a great multitude came carrying their sick. Because of the multitude it was impossible to minister to them individually, so they laid them in the street that the shadow of Peter might fall on them as he passed by. This was enough to heal everyone that came.

In the 19th Chapter of Acts we read that the Apostle Paul became so saturated with the power of God that, "So that from his body were brought unto the sick hankerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them and the evil spirits went out of them" (Acts 19:12).

Do believers have the power to heal? I think a good example of this is found in the 8th Chapter of Acts. "Then Phillip went down to the city of Samaria, and pdreached Christ unto them. And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Phillip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits crying with a loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them. And many taken with palsies and that were lame, were healed" (Acts 8:5-7). Now this man was not an apostle, he was only a waiter on the tables, Acts 6:1-5, but he preached Christ unto the people and the people gave heed to the things that Phillip spoke. There is such a thing as the power of God being in men, but this is true only of men of faith. When men begin to evade and compromise it is because faith has been annulled and fear has crept in. They are afraid of persecution; they are afraid that faith might not work. Natural man has no power but when men are working with God, when men are linked up with Deity, when God is in man, then there is a divine power in that man. When men deny that they have no power, then they are denying that they are filled with the Spirit. They deny that Christ is in them. When we are in Christ all things become possible to us. Man cannot heal, it's that Spirit tf the Holy Ghost that man allows to come into his life that does the healing.

SOMEONE IS FOLLOWING YOU

Don't forget that day by day
Someone is following you;
Be careful what you say,
Be careful what you do.

Don't forget as you go along
Someone is following you;
Watch to avoid the wrong,
Watch the path you pursue.

God help you this truth to see:
Someone is following you;
Be strong! His witness be,
Be strong! Live always true.

CHASTENING

"I know not why His hand is laid
In chastening on my life,
Nor why it is my little world
Is filled so full of strife.

I know not why, when faith looks up
And seeks for rest from pain,
That o'er my sky fresh clouds arise
And drench my path with rain.

I know not why my prayer so long
By Him has been denied,
Nor why, while others' ships sail on,
Mine should in port abide.

But I do know that God is Love,
That He my burden shares,
And though I may not understand,
I know for me He cares.

I know the heights for which I long
Are often reached through pain,
I know the sheaves must need be
threshed
To yield the golden grain.

I know that, though He may remove
The friends on whom I lean,
'Tis that I thus may learn to love
And trust the One unseen.

And, when at last I see His face
And know as I am known,
I will not care how rough the road
That led me to my Home."

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THE FUTURE
OF OUR
DENOMINATION
RESTS ON
THE SHOULDERS
OF
YOUNG PEOPLE
SUCH AS THESE.
THEY WILL
GROW UP,
WITH OUR
HELP;
AND, MR. BALLARD,
IN HIS EDITORIAL,
ADDRESSES
THE FACT
THAT RESPONSIBILITIES
OF LEADERSHIP
MUST BE
RELINQUISHED
TO THEM—
AND, THOUGH
HE RECOGNIZES
THE VALUE
OF THE VETERAN
LEADERS OF THE
DENOMINATION,
HE HONORS AND
RESPECTS YOUTH,
AND AFFIRMS
"I AM NOT
AFRAID TO
ENTRUST THE
WORK TO YOU."

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Wednesday, May 3, 1978, Ayden, North Carolina

Photo by Walter Reynolds

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MAY 3, 1978

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Editorial . . .

I AM NOT AFRAID

by Loy Everette Ballard

Recently I attended a Free Will Baptist convention which was different from most conventions I have attended in the past. It was different in that there were fewer older people present than I have been used to seeing at such statewide meetings. I missed the presence of many with whom I have been associated throughout the years. Most all of those who were in places of responsibility were under thirty years of age.

As I sat in the church contemplating this, my mind went back to a similar meeting a few years ago, when the presence of young ministers and other leaders began to be noticeable. At that meeting, one of the older ministers said to me: "Ballard, aren't you afraid that these young and inexperienced fellows who are taking over the convention will get the convention off its traditional course?"

At that time, I was just fresh from directing one of our best youth conferences at Cragmont where, in the final service, a number of young people had come forward to commit themselves to Christian service. In this particular commitment service, something very unusual happened. A fine Christian girl came forward, and asked to talk confidentially with me. Moving to one side, she said to me: "Pa Ballard, above everything else, I want to become a pastor's wife, but I don't think I should tell this out; but you can pray with me about it."

(I must digress here to insert a note to the effect that two years later this girl found her preacher, and the two have had a most wonderful career in working together as man and wife in a church that has become a great soul-saving institution.)

Contemplating the things I have seen happen over the years, I did not hesitate to say to my disturbed friend, "No, Brother, I'm not afraid to trust the future of our denomination to these young people."

This is just as true with respect to the young people who seemed definitely to be coming into leadership in our recent convention. Of course, there may be one now and then who will betray the trust placed in them—there have been some in **my** generation. But I am convinced that most of our young preachers and other denominational leaders are just as sincere and dependable as we older ones have been. It is time for the mantle of Elijah to fall upon the shoulders of these young Elishas.

As long as the Lord spares me, I expect to love, respect, and believe in the young people, many of whom give me the honor of calling me "Pa Ballard." Go ahead with the work, boys and girls. I'm not afraid to trust you!

THE CHALLENGE OF THE PHILIPPINES

by Ed Miles

(First Installment)

BESS and I returned from the Philippines before Christmas and we would like to share our feelings about the Philippines.

First, we want to express our appreciation to our Foreign Mission Board, Director Joseph Ingram, and most of all to Jesus Christ for the opportunity to represent Free Will Baptists for seven months in the Philippines, during the absence of Brother Wayne and Deborah King.

Our experiences are so broad and filled with the blessings of God that we can never really tell all of our experiences. It is our hope that this will give you more information about the Philippines, and at the same time challenge you to let God have His way in your life concerning foreign missions.

At the close of the Spanish-American War in 1898, the Philippines was ceded to the United States by Spain. Except for the years of Japanese occupation during World War II, the United States governed the Philippine islands until July 4, 1946, when we granted the Philippines a belated independence.

The Filipinos enjoyed a leisurely type of life under Spanish rule. Priests appointed local governmental leaders and teachers. The Catholic Church used force many times to get what it wanted. Among the many restrictions was that no work could be done on Sundays. The islands are predominantly Catholic today as a result of this early Catholic influence. Under American rule, the islands held their first popular election in 1919. After that first election the United States tried to bring about "home rule" with a stable government. We succeeded in many ways and failed in others up to World War II.

The Japanese attacked the Philippines in just seven hours after their attack upon Pearl Harbor. The infamous Bataan death march began after the surrender of the island by General Wainwright on April 9, 1942. Thousands of Americans and Filipinos died on this march. It is said that as many as 500 died each day for lack of food and medicine. I was told by a Filipino, who was on the march, that he saw many Americans as well as Filipinos shot before firing squads, while others were beheaded by swords. He said that they were punished for minor offenses by standing at attention facing the tropical sun all day.

This man managed to escape, but while he was escaping he was shot in the shoulder, leaving his right arm paralyzed. Upon meeting this man, he kicked off his shoes, threw his hat at my feet, hugged my neck and cried, saying that he had prayed to God that he could see one more American so he could thank him for what America did for the Philippines during World War II.

There are no Americans in this area. Pastor Jimmy Basarte's father, of the island of Palawan, was a prisoner of war. Brother Jimmy was only twelve years old at the time, but he well remembers the men of his barrio (community) killing hundreds of Japanese after their ship was disabled off the island of Leyte. He said the men would go to the Japanese ship, in their small pump boats, and bring two Japanese ashore at a time, killing them with knives and returning for more. Brother Jimmy said that there were so many Japanese on that ship that it took weeks to bring them ashore two at a time. The Japanese thought that they were being rescued!

The entire island of Corregidor is today pretty much the same as it was when the war ended. Bess and I spent a day on this island. This is the island where General Wainwright surrendered the entire Philippines to the Japanese.

War did not end in the Philippines at the end of World War II. Violence continued on the local level until President Marcus declared martial law in 1972. The murder rate was six times as high as that of the United States, so President Marcus outlawed all private weapons.

Piracy and crime were a way of life for many, making it dangerous to travel unless you were in large groups. Even today there is sporadic piracy. I am told that each politician has his own little army and that many elections were won by killing off the opponent.

Manila became known as the most violent city in Asia. It is much better today and President Marcus has agreed to free elections this year. However, some fear that elections might open the floodgate to hostility again. It is said that in Basilan alone, not a day passes without a killing. Killings have become a common occurrence in these troubled islands.

There are some fifty tribes scattered throughout the islands today. There are still many of these tribes who have not been into the country's modern culture. Many tribes are still in the remote mountains and have little or no contact with the outside world. I asked Brother Jimmy Basarte when we were in the extreme northern part of the island of Palawan, what happened to those people when they got sick. He answered, "They just suffer and die."

Head-hunting (in the Ilongot tribes in northern Luzon) was an accepted method by which a young man proved his bravery and maturity. I was privileged to hear four of these young men at Clark Field Baptist Church tell how Jesus had changed their lives. Even today, occasionally you hear of a head being taken. One native mission pastor told me that three attempts had been made on his life, but each time he out-ran them.

(Continued on Page 12)



SUNDAY, MAY 7

Scripture Reading—John 4:24

NEGLECTED WORSHIP

During World War I an Indian maharaja, conversing with an American, asked him, "Do you know why God is punishing the Christians by letting them fight and destroy each other as they are?" Answering his own question, he said, "If I paid as little attention to my religion as most Christians pay to theirs I would expect God to punish me." Then this Hindu prince said that though one percent of the officials in his employ were British, yet for their sake he kept all his offices closed on Sunday, and had built two Christian churches, that they might have both time and place for worship. But he went on to say that services were held only about once in three months. "What do they do on Sunday?" he was asked. "They are hunting, boating, tennising, racing, and playing cards. If you ask me why God is punishing the Christian nations, I think that there you have the answer."

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we as Christians don't go to church on Sunday, what are we doing? Do we go fishing, boating, tennising, racing, or do we play cards? Wouldn't it be better for us if we pleased God and went to church?

MONDAY, MAY 8

Scripture Reading—Romans 1:12

THE BRIDGE YOU'LL NEVER CROSS

It's what you think that makes the world
Seem sad or gay to you;
Your mind may color all things gray
Or make them radiant hue.
Be glad to-day, be true and wise,
Distinguish gold from dross;
Waste neither time nor thought about
The bridge you'll never cross.

There's useful work for you to do,
For hand and brain and heart;
There's urgent human service, too,
In which to take your part.
Make every opportunity
A worth-while gain, not loss;
The best is yours, so do not fear
The bridge you'll never cross.

If life seems drab and difficult,
Just face it with a will;
You do not have to work alone
Since God is with you still.
Press on with courage toward the goal;
With Truth your shield emboss;
Be strong, look up and just ignore
The bridge you'll never cross.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God will take care of you and you have no need to worry. Worry makes you think of things which may never happen.

TUESDAY, MAY 9

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 1:21

HOW ONE MAN LOST HIS CHANCE

A young man, in the very flower of his days, once told the following story, in answer to a question as to why he was not spending his life for God and others.

"I was once," he said, "as you are, a Christian worker, and service for God was a great delight. For many years I gave of my best, and was happy in giving, until one day God called me to launch out in the deep—to forsake all and follow Him fully. But," he continued slowly, "I thought of my wife and two children, of my comfortable home, of my paying business, of all I valued in the homeland, and I looked up to God, and said 'No.' That's three years ago," he said, "and now—"

"Now," I echoed quickly, "What?"

"Oh," he replied with a mirthless laugh, "what's the good of speaking about these things? I don't know why you should have asked me that question; I must go." And he arose and reached out for his hat.

"But," I answered breathlessly, laying my hand upon his arm, "you care still, don't you?"

For a moment he lifted his dark eyes to mine, and never shall I forget his look of remorse. "Care!" he repeated hoarsely; "what's the good of caring now? I'm so involved in business with worldly men that I hardly call my soul my own. Both my wife and I have backslidden, and never even go to church; and as for helping others—look, I've lost my chance."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we let Satan run our lives until we lose our chances with God? God loves His children and He will take care of them.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

Scripture Reading—Psalm 19:1

FINISHING THE TASK

A friend of mine was building a house in China, and had engaged an old Chinese contractor for the job. The house was nearing completion when my friend received word late one night, requesting him to come at once to the house of the contractor. He found him very ill and in a dying condition, and noticing that the old fellow seemed to be troubled about something, he asked him if all was well between him and his God. The old man replied with a smile that all was well, that his sins were forgiven, and that he was going back to his Heavenly Father. But still feeling that something was troubling him the missionary questioned him further. Finally the old man broke into tears and said: "It's all right with me, Teacher. I am going to the Heavenly Father, but I did not want to go until I had finished the work I started for you. Will you forgive me, Teacher, for not finishing it?" What a great thing if all of us were as much concerned about finishing the work the Master has given us to do!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Shouldn't we be concerned about finishing our tasks which God has planned for us to do? But God is the only one who knows when our task here on the earth is done.

THURSDAY, MAY 11

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 3:13

JESUS CHRIST AND WE

Christ has no hands but our hands
To do his work today;
He has no feet but our feet
To lead men in His way;
He has no tongue but our tongues
To tell men how He died;
He has no help but our help
To bring them to His side.
We are the only Bible
The careless world will read;
We are the sinner's Gospel,
We are the scoffer's creed;
We are the Lord's last message
Written in deed and word—
What if the line is crooked?
What if the type is blurred?

What if our hands are busy
With other work than His?
What if our feet are walking
Where's sin's allurement is?
What if our tongues are speaking
Of things His lips would spurn?
How can we hope to help Him
Unless from Him we learn?

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are to learn to do things by following Jesus. What better way to grow in knowledge! We can help grow in it by reading God's Word.

FRIDAY, MAY 12

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 14:5

THOSE "DROPS OF GRIEF"

Uncle John Vassar, "one of the greatest soul-winners of his century," was going from door to door distributing tracts and speaking with people as opportunity came. An Irish woman heard of this strange man who was entering the houses of the town without introduction, and said, "If he comes to my door he shall not be kindly treated." The next day, with no knowledge of this threat, he rang her bell. When she recognized him she slammed the door in his face. Nothing daunted, he sat upon the doorstep and sang:

"But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord I give myself away;
'Tis all that I can do."

A few weeks later this woman sought admission to a church. As she made her confession before the Elders she could only say between her sobs, " 'Twas those drops of grief. They burned themselves into my heart."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Did not Jesus cry for us as He died for us? He loved us so much that He died for us. Wasn't that a great love?

SATURDAY, MAY 13

Scripture Reading—Revelation 22:17

PLEASING THE FATHER

One day when I was preaching, I asked my own son to stand up. I said: "Robert, stand up. Are you my son?" "Yes, sir." "Well," I said, "Son, you are correct. You are my son; but do you always do that which is right? Do you not sometimes do that which is wrong?" "I expect I do sometimes." "Well, when you do wrong, you are not my son, are you?" "Yes, sir!" "What kind of a son are you then?" "A bad one." "And if you get your just deserts, what do you get?" (He is so big now that he can kiss me on the top of my head, but he knew what he used to get.) "Then you are my son no matter how you live?" "Yes, sir." "Then you can go and do as you please?" His answer was, "No, sir—I do not do as I please. I want to live the way you want me to live!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are God's children, no matter what we do. We should try always to obey Him.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations, Eerdmans Press.*

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

MONEY STICKING TO FINGERS

by Woodrow Hill

There is a legendary tree in tropical South America which is often referred to as "the rain-tree." It is so-called because it supposedly possesses the power of drawing moisture from the atmosphere and then carefully depositing it in copious and refreshing dew on the earth surrounding it. In this way it creates an oasis of luxuriant vegetation wherever it flourishes, taking what it needs from the air to function, but keeping for itself only what is necessary for its survival.

While the "rain-tree" may not function as some believe, the legend illustrates the workable principle which is written into the ecology of God's creation. Everything our heavenly Father made is designed to both give and receive, and when the cycle is broken trouble results. All must pass through this natural cycle in order to function healthfully, and when the cycle is blocked a chain reaction results which limits the ecology of God. God advises his children to give when we have needs, and he reminds us that when we do so we set in motion those laws which start necessary supplies moving in our direction. . . .

God wants the best from those whom he has created, and he yearns to give the best he has to offer. The two are related, and an understanding of that relationship is essential to well-ordered and Godly living. When one receives the best from God, and unselfishly gives his best in return, the abundance of blessings begin to flow through him. This marks the stewardship relation of mankind to God, and a breakdown at this point represents the greatest failure in the human experience. All failure and success in life is determined by one's response here, for this deals with the quality and substance of trust.

The art of giving and receiving has been neglected too long, and when we experience a stewardship renewal in our churches and society in this neglected area, we will see a resurgence of interest in both moral and spiritual values.

(Continued on Page 12)

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"

mission work...

at home and abroad.



Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
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Goldsboro, N. C. 27530

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
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THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT FROM JANUARY 1, 1978— MARCH 31, 1978

Albemarle

Albemarle Union Meeting	$ 6.00
Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention	44.63
Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	4.00
Free Union (Beaufort County)	50.00
Hickory Chapel	331.65
Malachi's Chapel	197.41
Mount Zion	100.00
Saint Paul	161.60
Shiloh	61.57
Union Chapel	83.74
TOTAL	$1,040.60

Cape Fear

Goldsboro, First	$ 73.25
Haymount Mission	213.50
Hopewell	293.74
Johnston Union	75.00
Lee's Chapel	77.56
Palmer Memorial	56.72
St. Mary's Grove	25.00
Shady Grove	35.75
Smithfield, First	75.00
Smyrna	10.00
Wooten's Chapel	78.87
TOTAL	$1,014.39

Central

Aspen Grove	$ 218.27
Bethany	101.56
Black Jack	322.29
Central Conference Layman's League	68.34
Daniels Chapel	250.00
Edgewood	75.18
Elm Grove	165.00
Friendship	284.43
Greenville, First	200.00
Grimsley	197.80
Harrell's Chapel	225.00
Hickory Grove	10.01
Howell Swamp	2.00
Hugo	110.00
Hull Road	25.90
Kings Cross Roads	3.58
LaGrange	4.00
Little Creek	1.50
Ormondsville	45.00
Otter's Creek	29.27
Peace	14.62
Reedy Branch	115.00
Rose of Sharon	50.00
Rose Hill	65.00
Saratoga	62.00
Second Union Sunday School Convention	100.00
Sweet Gum Grove	50.00
Williamston, First	10.75
Winterville	347.95
TOTAL	$3,154.45

Eastern

Arapahoe	$ 534.98
Antioch	75.00
Bethlehem	5.00
Bridgeton	32.00
Carteret County Union Meeting	40.00
Core Creek	30.00
Crab Point	68.50
Croatan	20.00
Dublin Grove	40.00
Fifth Sunday School Convention	10.00
Fifth Union Meeting	10.00
Folkstone	225.00
Grant's Chapel	25.00
Holly Springs	1,054.47
Jackson Heights	132.85
Juniper Chapel	150.00
Kinston, First	180.00
Macedonia	200.00
May's Chapel	33.14
Mount Zion	86.00
New Bethlehem	5.00
New Haven	50.00
Northeast	58.00
Oak Grove	10.50
Pearsall Chapel	100.00
Pilgrims Rest	44.80
Piney Grove	8.17
Rock of Zion	339.27
Rooty Branch	25.00
Saints Delight	356.71
St. Mary's	150.00
Sandy Plain	32.38
Snow Hill	25.00
Smith's New Home	150.00
Sound View	397.93
Third Union District	25.00
Welcome Home	320.71
Wintergreen	15.00
Woodrow, First	25.00
TOTAL	$5,090.41

Individuals

Anonymous	$ 800.00
Case, Mrs. R. R.	100.00
Coats, Joyce	10.00
Creech, Sharlene	25.00
Daniels, Vernon	35.00
Faucette, the Rev. Graham	50.00
Sasser, Ada B.	100.00
Yates, Joseph C.	60.00
TOTAL	$1,180.00

Piedmont

Bethany	$ 11.30
Cathedral	15.00
East Rockingham	51.07
Heritage Mission	62.02
TOTAL	$139.39

Pee Dee

Cypress Creek	$ 15.00
Oak Grove	81.48
Union Number One	10.00
TOTAL	$106.48

Western

Branch Chapel	$ 500.00
Everett's Chapel	226.58
Fellowship	100.00
First Union	200.00
Flood's Chapel	13.00
Free Union (Nash County)	80.00
Friendship	100.00
Holly Springs (Kenly)	5.00
Kenly	121.84
Marsh Swamp	150.00
Mount Zion	100.00
People's Chapel	108.11
Piney Grove	75.00

Pine Level	180.00
Pleasant Hill	50.00
Pleasant Grove	20.00
Pleasant Plain	10.00
Rains Cross Roads	30.00
St. Mary's	187.50
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	20.00
Unity	75.00
Wilson, First	187.50
TOTAL	$2,689.53

North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Christian Service Fund $88.42

Out-of-State

Virginia Beach	$150.00
Total Contributions	$14,653.67

NEWS FROM THE LINKS



Pictured left to right are the Rev. Vance Link, the Rev. Antonio Escobar, and daughter; Mrs. Escobar, and son; and Miss Ann Schmidt

Miss Ann Schmidt of Witchita, Kansas, was a visitor at the Free Will Baptist Institute in February. She is a member of the National Training team of Child Evangelism. She visited with the Links on Sunday, and then conducted a teacher training Seminar for the community at the Institute on Monday.

On Monday night, she conducted a "Mini-Seminar at the Free Will Baptist Church in Piedras Negras, Mexico. Dalia Maldonsdo, a recent member of the Lighthouse Free Will Baptist Church of Eagle Pass, Texas, went along as a translator for her. The Links also took part in the seminar. Mattie taught the group some new "canticos de salevacion" (Salvation songs).

The Lighthouse Free Will Baptist Church of Eagle Pass, Texas, has five Good News Club teachers that teach boys and girls in neighborhood Bible classes weekly. Also, there is a weekly teacher-training class for the teachers. During the month of February, there were twenty-one classes taught, with fourteen boys and girls saved. There were ninety-five verses reported as having been memorized by the students of these classes.

The church also provides a "children's church" on Sunday mornings where the children from the fourth grade down are taught a visualized Bible story with flannel graph during the morning message, in a separate room. They have just completed a study on Genesis during which several prayed to receive Christ. On April 9th, there were twenty-seven children and two teachers present during "children's church." God is blessing us. Please keep on praying.

Mattie Link

'The Mountaintop Experience

Cragmont Bulletin

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, NC

TO EVERYONE 8 TO 19

It's that time of the year again—CRAGMONT!!

Registration has already begun for General Youth Conference Week (June 19-24) at Cragmont. To register yourself complete the following and send to John Williams, Route 2, Box 583, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CHURCH _____

YOUR PHONE NUMBER _____

YOUR YOUTH LEADERS PHONE NUMBER AND NAME _____

Enclose a $10 registration fee.

Cost of camp for this session will be $50. Your $10 registration fee will be considered as part of your cost of camp. You will need to take your own spending money. The deadline for registration will be June 5, 1978.

We only have room for about 100 campers so register now to assure you a trip to Cragmont this year. If your friends do not receive this letter tell them to write the same information on a plain piece of paper and send it to me.

John R. Williams
Director and Registrar
General Youth Conference
Cragmont Assembly

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: How do you explain: "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6); in the light of "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5).

Answer: The Bible's message in its teaching concerning salvation makes faith in Christ or belief in Him and His shed blood the primary step or the one essential to salvation. Jesus taught this. Give strict attention to some of His words on this vital and all important subject. "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:14-18).

Here Jesus encounters Nicodemus, this educated leader of the Jews, who in all his learning lacked in the working knowledge of the vital and most essential of all the facts of life. What a pity that much of the religious population of the earth, this country as well as others, is in that state of being today. Most people even though many of them do not need to be are ignorant as to what the Bible teaches on the subject of salvation by grace alone and how they are to obtain it, even though the Bible is both simple and clear in its teaching on the subject.

The attitude of many in this day makes me think of Naaman, the Syrian general who was a leper and was terminally ill and a servant, a little Jewish girl informed him to whom to go for a cure of his leprosy. Instead of going to him he went to the king of Israel making a big scene, but finally having gained no results he got to Elisha and got his instructions what to do to get a complete cure of his leprosy, He refused to do it because it was too simple and absurd to the natural man. "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. . . .For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe" (1 Corinthians 1:18, 21).

Another of his servants approached him while he was in this state of unhappy disbelief and persuaded him to respond in obedience to the man of God. "And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean? Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean" (2 Kings 5:13, 14).

Samuel of old taught his constituency and teaches us today by the use of the same words "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king" (1 Samuel 15:22, 23).

The Apostle Paul told those in the jail at Philippi: ". . . Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31). They believed and were saved and baptized then and there with no delay to leave the jail or find an appropriate place and time.

That's what we appeal to the unsaved to do wherever they may be. We that are saved are called upon to be instant in season and out of season that the unsaved all may have an opportunity. They are taught that today is the day of salvation. The prosperous farmer of Luke 12:16-21 turned his mind to his abundant crop and to building new barns that his soul might be prepared to take rest in the strength of his abundance of material stored away, but alas, God speaks . . . "This night thy soul is required of thee." There was no time left to be intrigued by the abundance of material wealth. He evidently missed the place John 14 tells us Jesus has gone to prepare for us and it's too late to enjoy new barns and that which is stored in them. Let us, you and me, not allow this to happen to us.

The Bible makes this appeal "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18); "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

God is reasonable in all that He has said in the Bible. See, read and consider 1 Timothy 3:16. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). Read the rest of the chapter. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16, 17).

In Hebrews 11:6 it is made clear that we need faith. The first verse in this wonderful chapter tells us that faith is the substance of things hoped for and

Continued on Page 15.

NEWS & NOTES

Revival Now in Progress At Black Jack Grove Church

Revival services are now in progress at Black Jack Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Goldsboro. Services began on May 1, and will continue through May 6. Services begin each evening at 7:30 with the Rev. Keith Cobb of Farmville as the guest evangelist. Special music and a nursery are being provided each evening.

The pastor, the Rev. Dennis Pollock, and members invite all to attend the remaining services.

100th Anniversary Celebration at Hickory Chapel Church

The Hickory Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Ahoskie, will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on Sunday, May 7, 1978.

The Sunday school lesson will be taught in the sanctuary beginning at 10 a. m. Following this, the pastor, the Rev. Robert May, will bring the morning message.

A picnic lunch will be served at noon.

The afternoon service will begin with a devotion at 2 p. m. This service will also include special music, a memorial service and the history of the church.

All former pastors, former members and friends are invited to attend this very special occasion.

The church is located on Highway 561 east of Ahoskie.

Homecoming Announced at Palmer Memorial Church

Palmer Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Garner, will observe Homecoming on May 7, 1978. Sunday school will begin at 9:45 a. m. followed by the morning worship service at 11 o'clock. The Rev. R. W. Allman, a former pastor, will be bringing the morning message. Lunch will be served in the fellowship building at noon. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend.

On Monday night, May 8, revival services will begin with the Rev. M. E. Cox of Durham, as guest speaker. Services will be held each evening through Friday at 7:30. There will be special music at each service and a nursery will be provided. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

Homecoming Announced at Core Creek Church

Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, will have its annual homecoming on May 7. Lunch will be served on the church grounds. The pastor, the Rev. Melvin Everington, will bring the morning message. All former members, pastors, and friends are invited to come and worship with them.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Jimmy Webster states that he is available for pastoral services. He has been an ordained minister for almost 14 years. You may get in touch with him by writing Route 1, Box 224-A, Pinetown, North Carolina, 27865; or telephone 943-3987.

Russell's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Beaufort, will be in need of a pastor beginning the third week of June. The church has services every Sunday morning and Sunday night. For further information, contact Virgil Day, Route 1, Box 375, Beaufort, North Carolina or phone 728-3038; or Harold Rolison, P. O. Box 665, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516, or phone 728-4243.

Coming Events . . .

May 9—Board of Trustees Meeting, Mount Olive College
12—Graduation Day, Mount Olive College
14—Mother's Day
14—Children's Home Day in Local Churches
20—Founder's Day Celebration, 10:30 a.m. Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

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Woman's Auxiliary

ATTENTION LADIES!

The Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference, June 19-23, is less than two months away. Please register early. Elect your Woman of the Year to represent your local auxiliary and register her. I am happy and honored to have represented our local woman's auxiliary of Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church at Newport at the last conference. All of us feel proud, happy, and very humble to represent our auxiliaries. There were three representatives at the last conference. Let's triple that this conference.

The Camp Vandemere board members and the officers of the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention cordially invite the auxiliary ladies throughout the state to spend this week with us at Camp Vandemere on the beautiful Bay River; view God's handiwork; enjoy the fresh air; the good food; the fellowship; the sightseeing trip; and best of all, the Spiritual food, and blessings you will receive.

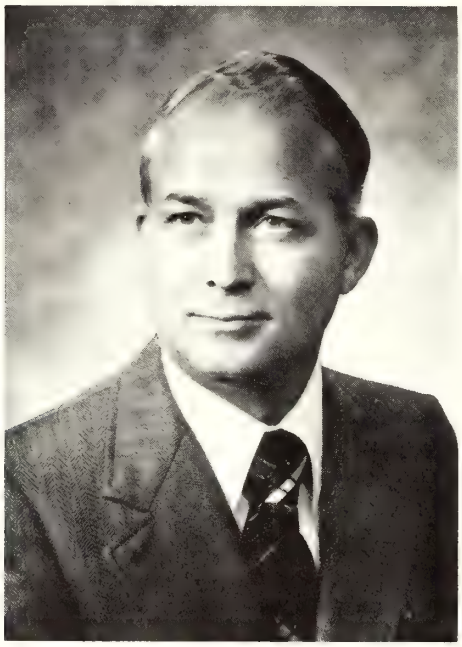
Guess what! Ladies, you can bring your husband. Register for him also.

(Continued on Page 15)

MOC

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MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT WORSHIP SET MAY 7



Dr. Michael R. Pelt, chairman of the Humanities Division, will be the annual Commencement Worship speaker for the 1978 Graduating Class, Sunday, May 7, at 7 o'clock p. m. in Rodgers Chapel.

Bibles will be provided for each graduate by an anonymous donor for the fourth year. The presentation will be made by Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College, James B. Hunt Sr. of Lucama.

As a member of the College faculty since 1957, Dr. Pelt is a Free Will Baptist minister and is currently serving as President of the Free Will Baptist Historical Society.

Dr. Pelt is a graduate of Troy State University, Duke Divinity School and Duke University with further study at Cambridge University in England. During his career, he has been named to Who's Who in American Colleges (1952); received a Gurney Harris Kearns Fellow in Religion (1956-66) and a National Endowment of the Humanities Fellowship for Junior College Teachers in 1973-74.

He is a member of the Society of Biblical Literature and North Carolina Teachers of Religion.

Dr. Pelt is married to the former Betty Etheridge. Their children Carey and Teresa, both attended Mount Olive; a daughter Sharon will graduate this year; and daughter Julie, is still in high school.

SEVERAL CHURCHES REPRESENTED AT HIGH SCHOOL DAY



Among the several Free Will Baptist Churches sending students to High School Day was Colquitt from Miller County, Georgia.



Rains Cross Roads church near Kenly and Free Union church in Greene County were present with students for the day's activities.



Gathered outside the Henderson Building on the Mount Olive College campus are students from First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston and Bethlehem church near Chinquapin.



Students from Community Free Will Baptist Church in Weldon attended the High School Day activities.

Several Free Will Baptist Churches were represented at Mount Olive College High School Day held recently.

Churches other than those pictured above included First Wilson church, Sandy Plain in Duplin County, Mount Zion in Nash County, Pine Level, Beaverdam, Rose Bud, Sarecta, Marsh Swamp, Daniels Chapel, Mount Zion in Pamlico County, Holly Springs in Carteret County, Winterville church, Hopewell in

(Continued on Page 13)

"A Christian Home for Boys and Girls"

free will baptist children's home

MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

churches are encouraged to remember the Home in their prayers and with their giving.

This year posters and bulletin inserts are available to each church. If you would like some for your service write or call the Children's Home right away.

The Spring is traditionally our lowest income months. Rarely do contributions keep pace with the expenditures in the Spring. This year is no exception. Therefore, we need for each of our churches to make their May Mother's Day offerings good ones.

On May 20 we invite each of you to bring your offerings to our annual Founder's Day Service. The program will begin at 10:30 a. m. and will last about an hour. The children will enact the history of the Home this year. You'll not want to miss it. Bring a picnic lunch, and eat with us. We'll furnish drinks and tea. After lunch the campus will be open for you to visit. We'll be looking for YOU!!!

IN MEMORY OF J. ANDREW HARTSFIELD



Pictured above is Joe Andrew Hartsfield. Andrew came to live at the Children's Home in 1959. He lived at the Home until he graduated from Southern Nash High School in 1969. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Tom H. Hartsfield of Onslow County. He attended Wilson Tech, Nash Tech, and UNC at Wilmington. He was a flying instructor and active in the National Guard.

Andrew is believed to have died February 18, 1978, in a plane crash near Brunswick, Georgia. His body has not been recovered. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Deans Hartsfield, and two sons, Joseph and Travis.

Andrew was well liked by staff and children alike. We were proud of his accomplishments. We ask you to pray for his wife and sons. Mrs. Hartsfield asked that all gifts be made in his memory to the Children's Home.

MAY IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH

May brings to us thoughts of motherhood. May 14 is Mother's Day this year. On May 14 and throughout the month of May, Free Will Baptists traditionally remember not only their own mothers, but also the Children's Home. Since 1920 Free Will Baptists have provided through the ministry of the Children's Home a mother relationship for the motherless child. Each May our

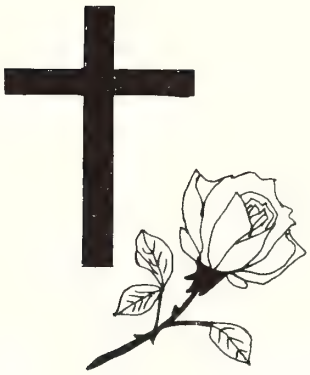
MEMORIALS
JANUARY—MARCH 1978

Total—$1,511

In Memory Of:	Given By
Mrs. Emma E. Casey	Ellen Bryan
Mr. Freddie Hare	Mr. Rufus Hare
Mr. Edwin (Gus) Hilliard	Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Hales
Miss Gina Carraway	The Rev. Stewart Humphrey
Mr. Leslie "Spec" Hart	Mr. and Mrs. Jack J. Dail
Mr. Edward Pittman	Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Pittman
Mr. Oscar Ross Sr.	Gum Swamp Auxiliary
Mr. Allen Faulkner	Mrs. Bryan S. Hall
Mr. Paul H. Peele Sr.	Mr and Mrs. Charlie Coltrain
Mr. Oscar Ross Sr.	Mr. and Mrs. William Tyndall
Mr. John Parris	Kinston First Free Will Baptist Church
Mrs. Katie Barnes Joyner	Lucille J. Winstead
Mrs. Tessie Windham	Fremont Young Adult Sunday School Class
Mrs. Tessie Windham	Fremont Free Will Baptist Church
Mr. Collins Yelverton	Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Scott
Mr. Arthur Renfrow	Kenneth Dixon and Family
Ms. Pauline Overby	Pleasant Grove Bryson Class

Honorariums
Total—$10

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Wade — Norman K. Stewart



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

When a person you love very much goes into major surgery for cancer it sometimes makes you wonder how strong your faith really is—especially when they have almost slipped away from you and the doctors tell you that it doesn't look good. The hours of waiting and praying seem to never end. Then the doctor appears and tells you the good news—the surgery is a success.

Then I think to myself, "Oh, ye of little faith." I had doubted and I was ashamed. The best moment of all was when my friend opened her eyes and there were words coming from her lips that said, "Jesus and I did it again."

When I left the hospital and walked out into the cool night air, I could almost hear God whisper in the breeze, "Have faith my child, I **do** still answer prayers."

FR
Walstonburg, N. C.

FEATURE

THE CHALLENGE OF THE PHILIPPINES

(Continued from Page 3)

I was told by pastor Lorenzo dela Rosa that two children were kidnapped last year in the southern part of Luzon. It is said that these children were sold to a bridge builder who sacrificed them and buried their bodies under a bridge so the bridge would not break down. Even today in the cities little boys, and sometimes men, ask you to let them guard your car for a fee. If you don't pay them your car could be damaged when you returned.

Stealing in the cities is very high. Those who can afford it pay a security guard each month to protect their property. The rich live behind high walls with steel bars over their windows. Many times they have a private guard while others share the cost of placing a guard every few blocks. Where we lived we shared the cost of a guard on our street twenty-four hours a day. Our house was broken into one time and many small items were stolen.

(In the next issue Brother Miles writes about the civil wars, farm life, and social customs in the Philippines.)

MONEY STICKING TO FINGERS

(Continued from Page 5)

The philosophy of paganism calls individual existence a bubble upon the sea of life, which continues to take into itself the air which surrounds it until it bursts, and is no more. The Christian gospel, to the contrary, teaches that life is created with a stewardship purpose by a loving God who sustains and cares for his children, but who endows them with freedom of choice. They live within the framework of laws he has established, and may themselves determine whether they will resist or receive that which is available to them.

The gospel compares life to a stream of "living waters" from which all may receive, and to which all are privileged to contribute in divine stewardship. In substance, God counsels, "If you need something, give and you will receive it; but keep only for yourself that which is essential to healthy living." He reminds his children that covetousness produces death, but that generosity is necessary to spiritual wholeness.

Even the human body which takes in more than it gives becomes fat, sloppy, lazy, and unhealthy. Through that fleshly temple in which we live God reminds us that we are stewards of all we receive, and if we become greedy and grasping we will contaminate and pollute the system which is necessary to the welfare of the human family.

—The Biblical Recorder

WE HOLD HANDS AND PRAY

by Beverly Dickens

There is an experience in which we share, that is more binding than our marriage vows, more unifying than a life together for many years. It is a moment of pure honesty—no lie may cross the threshold of our hearts. It is a time of trembling vulnerability when, carefully, we expose our tenderest spots. Gently, we encourage; bravely, we lift each other up; trustingly, we plead for healing and we become utterly caught up in an experience no man could devise. For a season, we truly leave the world. Our hearts break, are mingled together, rejoined as one and mended, never to be two again.

It is the time that we hold hands and pray.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For May 7

NO PARTIALITY WITH GOD

Lesson Text: Acts 10:23-25
Memory Verse: Acts 10:15

I. INTRODUCTION

In today's lesson the scene shifts to Caesarea, 27 miles up the coast from Joppa, to the home of a Roman centurion, Cornelius. He was a Gentile, and a very devout one, but this does not mean that he was a Christian. He was a proselyte to Judaism: He believed in the God of Judaism and His government. But, he had not taken the steps to believe in Christ and was not a Christian, even though he was very religious.

As this centurion was praying one day, an angel of God appeared and told him to send for Peter who, at the time, was in Simon the tanner's house in Joppa. Immediately, Cornelius sent two of his men to Joppa.

The next day, as the messengers were nearing Joppa, Peter was on the flat roof of Simon's house, praying. He fell into a trance and saw a great sheet full of all sorts of ceremonially unclean animals being let down from Heaven. Suddenly a voice commanded, "Rise, Peter; slay and eat."

Peter recognized this order as from the Lord, but he did not recognize the Lord's right to command him to do what was forbidden by the Mosaic Law. He answered the Lord with a great contradiction, "Not so, Lord." If He is Lord, one cannot say, "Not so," and if one says, "Not so," He cannot be Lord.

By repeating the action three times God assured Peter that He had cleansed these animals. At this point, the messengers from Cornelius appeared. Since the Lord had told Peter that he should go with them, he did.

—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Cornelius was instructed to send for Peter, even though he knew little of the man other than that he was a Jew. Peter on the other hand was told to go with the messengers "nothing doubting." Unquestioning obedience was the test of faith.

B. The Lord eagerly hears the requests of anyone who comes to Him in selfless prayer. He definitely listens to the prayers of a nonbeliever who is seeking a clearer understanding of God's will.

C. God's dealings with all men are just and fair. He does not show favor to some and disfavor to others based on external appearances, race, wealth, nationality, etc. All men must approach God on exactly the same terms—through Christ.

D. In many areas, racial differences still give rise to many prejudical attitudes. Perhaps even more often, differences in culture, education, or wealth create attitudes that limit the church's outreach and ministry.

E. "I did not see God looking into my space-cabin window, as I do not see God looking into my car's windshield on earth. But I could recognize His work in the stars as well as when walking among flowers in a garden. If you can be with God on earth, you can be with God in space as well."—Astronaut James A. McDivitt

We can also see God in every man who walks with Him in humble, dutiful service.

—Selected

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Jesus had told Peter that He would give him the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 16:19). In the Book of Acts, we see Peter using these keys. He preached the gospel to the Jews on the Day of Pentecost; he preached to the Samaritans in Acts 8; and in this lesson he made the gospel available to the Gentiles. Peter was never a Pope, but he was an apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ.

B. Sometimes it takes drastic measures to convince us that some of our traditions are wrong. Saul had to be struck down on the Damascus road, and Peter had to see a vision. Whatever it takes, God will give it, if we are sincere and seek His will in our lives.

C. In this lesson, there are two visions: that of Cornelius and that of Peter. These two visions agreed. The will of God never separates people; it always brings them together. If two Christians are driven apart, we may be sure that one or both of them is out of the will of God. When men find the will of God, they are always drawn closer to the people of God.

D. In his first sermon to the Gentiles, Peter did not quote the Old Testament. But he did preach Christ. He preached Jesus as Christ, the promised Messiah for the Jews, and as Lord of all. One who does not preach that Jesus Christ is the Lord of all does not preach the full gospel message.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 10)

Smithfield, Hugo, and Sidney in Beaufort County.

The High School Day activities included campus tours, informative meetings for seniors and parents, visits with faculty and students, and special music by the Mount Olive College student groups, the New Creations and the Mount Olive Singers.



Story Corner

LEVI

by Nancy Matthews

THERE was only one thing of significance to distinguish the boy from a hundred other boys who roamed the crowd or playfully jostled one another. That was the expression on his face.

He was not smiling. He was not curious. He was not unsuccessfully suppressing energies.

His was an expression of belligerent acceptance of a duty to be done.

One would not notice that one arm was slightly withered until he, when he thought no one was looking, tried without success to use it. Most of the time he tried to keep that arm hid.

If only his mother and father were living, he would not have to take all the mean jobs his older cousins shirked, he thought.

His cousins had gone on ahead, they with their cousins on their mother's side, leaving him the task of transporting the basket of supplies. There was Matilda's coat, a blanket, and some dried figs for a midday snack.

Business had been slow at the fish house, with much of the population away. The people had flocked out of the city, like to games at the arena, to hear Jesus from Galilee teach strange thoughts and perform super miracles. His uncle had allowed a holiday for Levi and his cousins.

The excursion outside the city was not planned. It just kind of happened.

"Why don't we travel out to see this man?" Cousin Maria had asked, and the others had joined her in laughter.

"Maybe he could perform a miracle on me," Cousin Matilda mocked, fluffing her hair. "He could make me into the most beautiful woman in the world."

"You don't expect that kind of miracle, I hope! He'd have to start from scratch!"

Cousin David's face brightened. "Hey, why don't we really go out and see who's there?"

"And what the girls are wearing!" Matilda exclaimed.

"And who's actually listening to that garbage!"

"Do you mean people actually believe all the tales going around about this Jesus?" Jethro asked seriously.

"Of course," David explained. "If you'd proclaim the earth is shaped like an egg, some fool would believe it."

Levi, who was sitting in the corner toying listlessly with his cousin's castaways, listened quietly. His face became wistful for a moment and he rubbed his good hand over his partially paralyzed one. Then he realized the hopelessness of his thoughts. He swiped the game away so furiously with his good hand, the skin broke against a rough edge. Silently he made his way out of the room, to tend to the bleeding in solitude. But there was no way to stop the bleeding in his heart.

The service had not started. Levi skirted the edge of the crowd, his head bent forward. To him, the people were not individuals, but multiple parts of a whole—that whole being an obstacle he must get through to find his cousins. Voices were all around him, but he heard none of the conversations. It was only a jumbled meaningless noise.

A voice, a sweet melodious voice, distinguished itself from the rumble. "I know Jesus can heal little Johnny," it said. "After all, he's performed greater miracles than this."

If my mother were living, Levi reflected, she would have a voice exactly like that. He traced the voice to a young mother, her face bright with anticipation. Why were all the people shying away from her, Levi wondered. Her eyes, when they met Levi's, seemed to beckon him. She made a gesture with her hands and moved slightly on the grass in invitation. He moved forward, heedless of Aunt Ruth's warnings about trusting strangers. He sat down near her, and as she put her arm around him, she touched his withered arm gently. He felt as though he had come home. He looked up and smiled.

"Johnny," she said softly, "we have company."

"My name is Levi," the young boy offered.

Johnny opened his eyes, but right away Levi knew something was wrong with him. His head rolled uncontrollably. His hands and feet lay motionless in his mother's lap. So that's why all the people were putting distance between themselves and the boy. He had a defect. Levi thought of his own defect.

"Hello, Johnny," Levi said and

ohnny responded with a ghost of a mile.

"Johnny can tell already that you are a riend," the young mother said.

Levi found it easy to return her smile. I vish she was my mother, he thought and lecided to tell her.

"Do you know what I wish more than nything in the world?" he asked, then ooked down at his withered hand, "Well," he amended, "almost more han anything in the world."

"What do you wish," she asked, almost more than anything in the vorld?"

"I wish you were my mother," he aid soundly.

"What will Aunt Ruth say when she ears about this?" Cousin Matilda's oice raked through the air above him.

Levi jerked to attention.

"Bring the supplies this instant," she poke, "we need the blanket so we can it down."

Cousin David approached. "Get away rom these people," his deep voice demanded and he reached for Levi.

"But these are my friends!" Levi protested and stretched forth his arm —his withered arm—to shield Johnny from his cousins' piercing gaze. His hand touched Johnny's limp leg.

Levi caught the interest of a tall man passing by. The man winked his approval before he went on toward the front of the crowd.

A strange feeling crossed over Levi and he became tense. It was as though time had stopped.

"My leg hurts!" Johnny cried clearly, almost in tears. He began struggling.

This brought Levi to his senses and he loosed his tight squeeze on the other boy's leg.

Matilda and her other cousins were making arguments above them but Levi and Johnny did not hear.

"Johnny!" Levi exclaimed, "you can move your feet and your hands!"

Johnny's mother sat there, an arm still around Levi, as she helped Johnny off her lap with the other. Tears were a river down her cheeks.

Levi then noticed the little boy's head was held steady and he had control over his eyes.

"Johnny's well!" Levi shouted, unmindful of the attention he was drawing to the scene.

"What happened?" "What happened?" Someone asked of the commotion.

"I don't know exactly," the young mother answered happily, "but Johnny was ill. Now he is well."

"Who did it?" Who did it?" rained the questions.

"That man passed by," Levi answered. "It happened when that man passed by."

"Which man?" someone asked in an excited high pitched voice.

"That man," Levi said, and pointed to where he stood before the crowd.

"Levi!" Cousin Maria shrieked, "Look at your arm."

Levi glanced at his arm still held in the air. Then confused, he looked down at his other arm to make sure.

Cousin David, towering over them was embarrassed to be caught in the center of the commotion.

"Come on," he urged Levi. "Let's get away from here."

Levi turned to his cousin who intimidated him no more.

"I'll leave with you," he answered clearly and with self assurance. "But first, there is something I must do."

He took little Johnny's hand, and together, both glowing with health, and Johnny wobbling somewhat on his new found legs, made their way toward Jesus.

Woman's Auxiliary

(Continued from Page 9)

Please send your $5 registration fee to the director-registrar: Mrs. John Taylor, Route 1, Box 109, Deep Run, North Carolina 28535 Pay the remaining $30 upon arrival.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Rena Kirk
Eastern District Vice President

TO THE WOMEN OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT

At the convention which convened in March, 1978, the body accepted a recommendation that they continue as the district project for the year 1978 furnishing the lounge at Camp Vandemere.

Each auxiliary is asked to contribute $20.

Please send funds to the district treasurer.

Velma Morris
Route 2, Box 360
Vanceboro, N. C.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from Page 8)

the evidence of things not seen. We Christians who see through a glass darkly hope for God. The unsaved have some kind of a vague desire for some thing that comes to Christians through attaining unto God, but they do not hope for God and that he offers in the sense that we do, they still are blinded by the god of this world. They not only do not obey Christ as we have when He said ". . . he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:38). We are the only means God promises to use to win sinners in the Church Age.

"JESUS THE SOLID ROCK"

CELEBRATION

AT

EAGLES NEST

CONFERENCE CENTER

Near
Mount Olive

MAY 6

9:30 A. M.

The Festival will feature such groups as: Heaven Bound from Kinston; the New Life Singers from Wilson; the Gospel Chargers from Winterville; The Covenant Trio from Mount Olive and the New Creations from Mount Olive College.

BE SURE TO ATTEND!

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

VEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



CHRIST—
THE ONLY WAY
OF SALVATION . . . .



Photos by De Wys Inc. and John Taylor

Editorial . . .

AN EXPLANATION IS IN ORDER

The April 19 issue of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST carried a cover illustration of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, who heads The Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (commonly referred to as the Unification Church).

It has been pointed out that the cover illustration is *not* an accurate representation of the man. It has also been suggested that we should not have used such an illustration on the cover of a Christian publication. Our intention was *not* to *ridicule Moon*, only to draw attention to what I (and many others) consider the *dangers of his organization.*

The cover illustration in question, the accompanying editorial, "Moon Fever High," and the subsequent editorial, "More About Moon" (April 26 issue), may have repulsed some persons. In fact, I received one letter to that effect (which is printed elsewhere in this issue, and which is specifically directed toward the cover illustration and the initial editorial). But I have also personally spoken to several individuals who agree with and share my view, and support my stand.

Certainly, it is proper and timely for Christians who subscribe to the basic tenets of the Christian faith to express their convictions, in word and action—even under the pressure of criticism. (Those who disagree have the same right, of course.)

While I personally know little about Moon and his organization, I have done research—specifically drawing on the following sources: THE MOON IS NOT THE SON, by Dr. James Bjornstad (Dimension Books; Minneapolis, Minnesota); THE SPIRIT OF SUN MYUNG MOON, by Dr. Zola Levitt (Harvest House Publishers; Irvine, California); YOUTH, BRAINWASHING, AND THE EXTREMIST CULTS, by Dr. Ronald M. Enroth (Zondervan Publishing House; Grand Rapids, Michigan); THOSE CURIOUS NEW CULTS, by ETERNITY magazine editor, William J. Petersen (Keats Publishing, Inc.; New Canaan, Connecticut); "Rescue from a Fanatic Cult," by Dr. Charles H. Edwards (THE READER'S DIGEST, April, 1977; The Reader's Digest Association, Inc.; Pleasantville, New York); and newspaper briefs, including "Civil Suit Against Moon" (AP, Seoul, South Korea; THE DAILY REFLECTOR, March 26, Greenville, North Carolina.)

These references contain much stronger statements than I am qualified to make and they represent years of intensive research, personal interviews, and conclusions drawn by persons of authority. Since I am certainly no authority, I have relied heavily on persons who are.

Perhaps it was injudicious to address a controversial issue such as Moon and his Unification Church; however, I do feel that the discussion was timely—especially since the purpose was to inform and caution against a religion which *suggests*, at least, that there is a Saviour other than Christ. *That* suggestion, no Christian can dare accept! (Still, I am sorry to have caused undue concern for some who thought it poor taste to approach the subject as I did. I accept the responsibility for the editorials and the cover illustration; and I accept the criticisms offered, as well.)

(Continued on Page 15)

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MAY 10, 1978

Volume 93 Number 19

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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THE CHALLENGE OF THE PHILIPPINES

by the Rev. Ed Miles

(Continued from last week)

(Second Installment)

THERE is still another type of war going on in the Philippines, and that is a civil war. The Muslims want the Philippine government to give them the islands of Mindoro and Palawan for independent Muslim states. I quote the following from a Manila newspaper dated October 16, 1977:

"The southern Philippines is now a quagmire where a ten-month-old truce has gotten stuck and Christians and Muslims could again leap at each other's throats in fratricidal warfare.

"Despite the truce, forty-six governmental fatalities were registered in two reported Muslim rebel ambuscades this past week, among them a Philippine army general and five colonels. Altogether, the five-year-old war has already claimed 30,000 lives, and their hands have been strengthened by the fact that Libya has openly espoused their cause while the forty-two-nation Islamic Conference, whose Arab bloc has the oil the Philippines badly need, provides the moral and political backstop.

"President Marcos has, however, gone a long way towards relocating the Moros (Filipino Muslims) into the national mainstream, but has stopped short of giving them what they badly want—an autonomous Muslim region embracing thirteen provinces."

The problem of civil war has not stopped President Marcos from seeking the goals of his new society. While inflation is expected to continue at twenty percent annum to 1980, the President is taking strong steps to increase food production, extend electrical power, introduce technical courses in schools, improve social justice, improve medical facilities, and much more. At the present time the entire Philippines has one midwife, one physician, one nurse, and one dentist for every 5,000 population. The government hopes to decrease this 5,000 figure to 500 within the next ten years.

Much emphasis is also being placed on increased crop production. The Philippines has approximately six months dry season and six months wet season. The crops consist of corn, rice, bananas, cashew nuts, coffee, and many fruits, and tobacco. Many farmers are getting two crops per year and using no fertilizer. In fact, very little fertilizer is used.

The carabao (water buffalo) is the traditional work animal. However, on the island of Palawan, where most of our efforts will be in the future, one farmer in every four has no work animal. All of the work is being done with hand tools. Government records show only fifty tractors on this entire island. There is one tractor for every 10,000 acres of farmland. To my amazement, there is only one plow to every seven farmers on this island. Harvesting and threshing are all done by hand, except in rare cases.

The government reports the national per capita income at $400 per year for farmers, while their own figures show many farmers making less than $66 per year. Sugar, soap, and salt are still made locally in all parts of the Philippines. Thousands still live off the land, using fish, wild hogs, chickens, and various other animals for their meat.

It is believed by many that the island of Palawan will "come alive" in the near future. This island is rich in sugar, coconut, copper, fish, and lumber. Some say they will have all the big mines in the future because this island is very rich in chromium, copper, nickel, and silver. In 1974, the government required the United States mine companies to sell sixty percent of their stock to Filipinos in order to keep control over them. One mine owner told me that mining and oil drilling was "just beginning."

The government still owns seventy percent of the land of Palawan. After 1976, the government will not issue any more land titles because of possible rich resources. The only land that can be purchased is land that is already titled. For this reason the price of land has increased tremendously. Much construction, such as road work, is still being done by hand, picks, shovels, and wheelbarrows. So at best it will take years for them to see the new society in action.

More than half of the population is still farming and the switch from the land to industry, in my opinion, is a long way off. The new society hopes to make the national average income about $2,000 per year by the year 2000. This is a long way from the present national average per year.

There are at least two new features about the new society of President Marcos. First, there is the President's decree Number 1153 which requires all able-bodied Filipinos, ten years old and above, to plant sixty trees in five years. The planters also have to make sure the trees live the first two years. The second feature, rather unique, is that all government workers must do fifteen days of rural community service. The mayor and other high officials will do their fifteen days of community service in 498 depressed areas in the four cities and thirteen towns of Metro Manila. President Marcos said there will be no exceptions. Everyone must do the fifteen days of service at his regular pay. Also, it is against the law not to vote in elections.

Now, a few words about the Filipino himself. Ninety percent of the wealth is owned by five percent of the

Turn the Page

population. Thus there is no middle class. These remarks will refer to the poorer class where our churches are established.

Most of these people depend upon open wells, rivers, and springs for their drinking water. There are, according to government figures, more than 5,000 open wells in the village of Puerto alone. Flush toilets are almost unknown. Lights are by means of wick lamps with no shades. Dog meat is an accepted food for most families. The Filipino is clannish, lazy, content, and friendly. He is quick to smile, but is also quick to fight.

Filipinos are out-going and flamboyant. Their women are beautiful and pleasant to be with. The parents still make most of the wedding decisions. All courting is under strict control of the parents, and especially the father. In many parts of the Philippines there are five girls to every one boy because of war and internal fighting. For this reason it is hard for many girls to marry at all. One of our Free Will Baptist members offered to pay a boy to marry his fourteen-year-old daughter. She ran away from home and is living on another island with one of our pastors. You see, this man has five daughters and the law of average said to him that only one would get married. The boy pays all the wedding expenses which usually amounts to two or three days of feasting. I am told if a girl ever gives birth out of wedlock, she becomes the family slave and never gets married.

Many of the personal and private wrongs are redressed by personal vendettas. The families are very close; however, feuds between families are common, resulting many times in deaths. The average Filipino will not disagree with you and many times he says what he thinks you want to hear. They are not brutal and frank, as are many Americans.

(In the concluding issue Brother Miles will write of health problems, schools, transportation and communication, the religious life of the islands, and finally, our Free Will Baptist responsibility in this mission field.)



MAY IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH

May 20th is Founders' Day

Services Begin at 10:30 A. M.
Bring a Picnic Basket for Lunch
Beverages Furnished
Open House in the Afternoon

READER QUESTIONS COVER ILLUSTRATION AND MOON EDITORIAL

Dear Sir:

I feel I must comment negatively and critically on your cover for the April 19, 1978, issue of THE FREE WILL BAPTIST. While I am not a member of the Unification Church nor a believer in any of the doctrines taught by Sun Myung Moon—to say nothing of the claims made about him and by him—I feel in the interest of truth, fair play, and Christian love you should issue an apology and publish a follow-up article correcting some of the errors in your original presentation.

The cartoon on the cover bears no resemblance to Moon. Either the artist has never seen a picture of the man, or else he is very poor at reproducing what he has seen. Moon is not bald-headed nor does he, in any pictures I have ever seen, dress in a robe. If he did, he would not adorn it with Christian Chi-Rho symbols; he has a symbol for his church which features a sun with rays—nothing like the emblem you show here. In all pictures I have seen of Moon, he dresses in Western-style business suits. Worship services of the Unification Church are "low Protestant" in type, and would be quite acceptable to Baptists as to their **form**.

The editorial evidently aims to discredit Moon and his church by any or all means, including especially allegations by unidentified persons and quotations from Moon's own speeches taken out of context. Evidently, you have drawn on one or more articles or books written about the man and his church; you would have strengthened your argument immeasurably by citing your source(s)—unless it/they is/are unreliable. While I have read a great deal about Moon and the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (to use the Church's official name), I do not recall any document containing many of the points you mention—so I cannot guess your source and would be most interested to know what it is. I find that many of the things written about Moon are like gossip: one writer copies from another, who copied from another, and so on, each changing the "facts" a little. I think you will agree that gossip and slander do not become a Christian or a Christian publication.

You state that Moon and his church are "dangerous." You note also that "millions" have joined. You strongly imply members were "brainwashed" into joining—but I personally have found no evidence of this in my interviews with numerous members. From my observations, young people have joined this church because it offered them more of a challenge and had a bolder vision of the future than they had found in other churches. The great "danger" of this church, it seems to me, is that it is showing the emptiness and deadness of the majority of our churches. Moon's **Divine Principle** is a unique synthesis of many things (much more profound than you imply in your seventh paragraph), and before you ridicule it and write it off as a sinister plot to entrap youth and enrich an Oriental charlatan, you had better look into it more closely.

What we are witnessing in our time is the birth of a new religion comparable to Mormonism, Christian Science, or Jehovah's Witnesses; and while we may deplore the "heretical" nature of such religions, we do not harm them—but only ourselves—by trying to defame hem by ridicule and innuendo.

Sincerely yours,
Mac Linscott Ricketts
Professor of Religion
Louisburg College
Louisburg, North Carolina

MEANS OF MINISTRY

by Nancy Matthews

Have you ever considered the multiple means available to spread the Gospel? Find the list of words in the puzzle.

N	X	P	E	T	J	O	M	A	G	A	Z	I	N	E
E	B	U	L	L	E	T	I	N	O	V	E	L	G	K
W	A	P	M	E	W	A	S	C	H	O	O	L	R	O
S	A	P	O	L	E	M	S	T	O	S	A	A	E	O
L	N	E	V	B	L	A	I	V	E	A	D	S	E	B
E	O	T	I	I	R	R	O	I	A	I	G	N	T	R
T	I	S	E	B	Y	D	N	S	O	A	N	O	I	E
T	S	O	N	G	S	O	A	I	Z	R	I	I	N	P
E	I	P	A	N	M	Y	R	T	N	E	H	T	G	A
R	V	A	R	I	U	A	I	A	Y	C	C	A	C	P
E	E	N	T	H	S	L	E	T	A	O	A	T	A	S
P	L	S	C	C	I	P	S	I	S	R	E	I	R	W
A	E	T	R	A	C	T	S	O	S	D	R	C	D	E
T	T	P	O	E	T	R	Y	N	E	S	P	E	S	N
S	S	E	N	T	I	W	L	A	N	O	S	R	E	P

art
Bible
book
bulletin
drama
essay
greeting cards
jewelry
magazine
missionaries
movie
music
news letter
newspaper
novel
personal witness
play
poetry
preaching
puppets
radio
recitations
records
school
songs
tape
teaching
television
testimonies
tracts
visitation



SUNDAY, MAY 14

Scripture Reading—Genesis 39:16

THE PASTOR'S SEARCHING QUESTION

Bishop Charles L. Slattery tells the following story he heard in a little church in France: A new pastor had come to the village, and called at a certain cottage. When the husband came home from his work the wife said, "The new pastor called today." "What did he say?" asked the man. "Oh," she answered, "he asked, 'Does Christ live here?' and I didn't know what to say." The man's face flushed. "Why didn't you tell him that we were respectable people?" he said. "Well," she answered, "I might have said only that; only that isn't what he asked me." "Then why," continued the husband, "didn't you tell him that we say our prayers and read our Bible?" The wife replied, "But he didn't ask me that." The man grew more vexed. "Why," he continued, "didn't you say that you were always at church?" "He didn't ask that, either. He asked only, 'Does Christ live here?' "

This man and woman pondered for many days what the grave pastor meant by his question. Little by little their lives were changed; little by little they grew to expect Christ, not dead but gloriously alive. And some way, they knew not how, through great love and through a willingness to be surprised by the mystery of His radiance, they knew Him. He did indeed live there!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Does Christ live in your home? He should always be the center of your life, no matter where you are. Happy Mother's Day today to all mothers!

MONDAY, MAY 15

Scripture Reading—Genesis 43:16

NO HOME HERE

The following story contains more truth than fiction, and may suggest a cause for the lack of devotional life today. A real estate salesman tried to sell a house to a newly-married couple. Said the wife: "Why buy a home? I was born in a hospital, reared in a boarding school, educated in a college, courted in an automobile, and married in a church; get my meals in a cafeteria; live in an apartment; spend my mornings playing golf, my afternoons playing bridge; in the evenings we dance or go to the movies; when I'm sick I go to the hospital, and when I die I shall be buried from an undertaker's. All we need is a garage with a bedroom."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we sometimes feel that we don't need a home? It is said that "home is where the heart is." Home is where there should be a love of God.

TUESDAY, MAY 16

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 22:19

IS IT WRONG TO PLAY WITH DOLLS?

Is it ever wrong for a little girl to play with dolls? Of course not, you answer; but missionaries have found that it is wrong sometimes. The missionaries tell the heathen that it is wrong to worship idols. The heathen see the little daughters of the missionaries playing with dolls, and they think that the dolls are idols, such as they worship in their houses. Ought not the little girls give up playing with dolls until the people know the difference between a doll and an idol? For the sake of those whom their father is trying to teach about the true God, they must give up their own pleasure.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you ever thought what it would be like if a little girl had to give up her doll? Would it be like a mother giving up her child? Have you ever thought what it would be like for Jesus to give up His children? He loves and cares for His children, just as a mother loves her children—only more!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

Scripture Reading—Psalm 40:4

HELD, OR HOLDING ON?

I was going through Chicago once, when a prominent man called upon me, sat down at the table by my side, and said, "Mr. Moody, I want you to help me"; and the tears rolled down his cheeks. I said, "What! is it possible that you have lost your hope?" "No," he said. "Are you not still superintendent of that large Sabbath-school?" "Yes." "Is there any known sin that has come into your life and separated you from God?" "No." "Then," I said, "what do you want?" "Well," he said, "the fact is, my wife has something that I haven't got. She has something that keeps her in perfect peace, and I have to hold on all the time to keep my religion." That was the difference between those two sisters. Both loved Christ, but Martha was one of these fretful, anxious, worried women.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it funny how some people will worry about little things? Some of these things never seem to happen, because God doesn't let them. He knows what is best.

THURSDAY, MAY 18

Scripture Reading—Psalm 37:3

"AN UNCEASING INFLUENCE!"

My mother, when she had a large family of children gathered around her, made a covenant with three neighbors—three mothers. They would meet once a week to pray for the salvation of their children until all were converted. This was not known until after my mother's death, the covenant then being revealed by one of the survivors. We used to say, "Mother, where are you going?" and she would say, "I am just going out a little while, over to the neighbors'." They kept on in that covenant until all their families were brought into the Kingdom of God, myself the last; and

I trace that line of results back to an evening many years before, when my grandmother commended our family to Christ, the influence going on until this hour, and it will never cease.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it wonderful how mothers will care and worry about the salvation of their children? God worries about His children too. He cares for them.

FRIDAY, MAY 19

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 5:6

CHRISTIAN HOME, A SEED PLOT

In Robert Burns' "Cotters' Saturday Night" we see the ideal picture of Christian home worship at its best. It was from such Scottish homes with their family altars that there went forth the great pioneer missionaries. Robert Moffat, David Livingstone, Alexander Mac Kay—all to Africa; Ion Keith-Falconer to Arabia; John G. Paton to the New Hebrides; James Chalmers to New Guinea; and many others to the uttermost parts of the earth. Christian homes ought to be nurseries for the ministry and the mission fields.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The setting of a person's life begins at home as a baby. If the home is a Christian home, the child will grow up under a Christian attitude and will love the Lord more.

SATURDAY, MAY 20

Scripture Reading—Matthew 12:49

A FELLOW'S MOTHER

A fellow has a lot of friends
  Of boys and girls to play with,
And aunts and uncles that he spends
  An afternoon or day with.
I like the folks across the street,
  And men with smiling faces,
And pleasant people that you meet
  In church and other places.
A daddy's good, so big and tall,
  A sister, or a brother,
But one friend is best of all—
  And that's a fellow's mother!

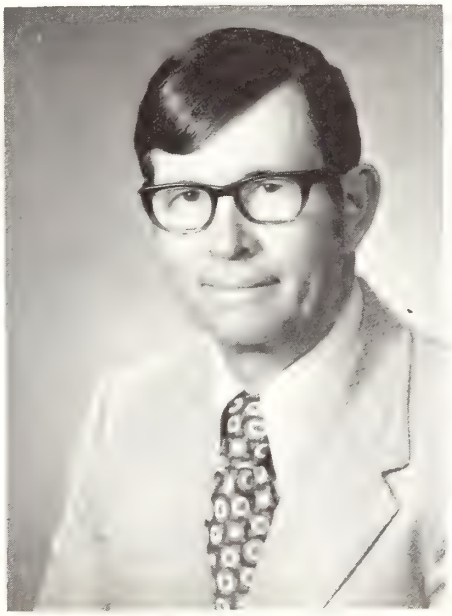
The other friends are nice to know,
  To visit and to chatter,
But, oh, you want your mother so
  When something is the matter!
Perhaps a finger you may hit,
  Because the hammer misses;
Your mother always fixes it
  With tape and thread—and kisses.
A mother takes the hurt away,
  She can, somehow or other;
One friend you need, need every day—
  And that's a fellow's mother!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Who can heal a broken sorrow as a child for us? Only our mother! Who can heal a broken heart as we grow older? Only Jesus can!

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

APPRECIATION DAY AT CALVARY CHURCH



The Rev. Dewey Boling

Several surprises were in store for the pastor and congregation at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson on Sunday, April 16. Mrs. Dewey Pittman and Mrs. William Poythress were presented with silk roses as "unsung" workers and represented all unrecognized workers of the church.

Also Mrs. Dewey Boling, the pastor's wife, was surprised and honored with a brass stand with appropriate inscription in appreciation for her devotion to the church and her husband through the years.

With quite a number of guests from former churches the Rev. Boling had pastored, Mrs. Mark Taylor conducted testimony time with guests testifying in honor of Rev. Boling: Mrs. Lee Hooks of Piney Grove, Kenly; Mrs. Virginia Hayes and Mrs. Mary Walston of Milbournie church; Mr. Andrew Edwards of Trinity church of Clayton; Mr. Roy Bailey of Goldsboro; Mr. and Mrs. Roman Lucas, Rock Springs; Mr. Jimmy Waddell of Piney Grove, Kenly; and Mr. Alvin Murray and Mr. Hubert Joyner of Calvary.

The testimonies were followed by the church choir singing "Dewey Was (Is) an Old Time Preacher Man." Mrs. Taylor then presented Mr. Boling a brass and wood plaque in honor of his 26 years in the ministry. Mr. Boling entered the ministry on April 6, 1952. Mrs. Luby Pate sang one of Mr. Boling's favorite songs "Make Me a Blessing."

Flowers for the day were placed in the church by Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Murray in honor of the Rev. and Mrs. Boling. Special guest was Mrs. E. C. Morris of Walstonburg, Mr. Boling's aunt.

The deacons and Mr. Boling served a barbecue chicken dinner to the members and guests after the morning service which everyone enjoyed.

ATTENTION!

The Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention will meet at the Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Ayden, on May 15 at 6:30 p. m.

All members of this committee are urged to be present.

MOC
OC

The Board of Trustees, Faculty
and Graduating Class of
Mount Olive College
request the honor of your presence
at the 1978 Commencement Exercises
Friday, May 12, 1978
at 5:30 p. m.
Moye Library Lawn

CHURCHES VISIT COLLEGE

Members from three Free Will Baptist Churches visited the Mount Olive College campus for a ''springtime'' visit recently. About 75 members of Oak Grove and St. Paul Free Will Baptist Churches in Newton Grove and Deep Run Free Will Baptist Church in Deep Run ate lunch and toured the campus with President, Dr. W. Burkette Raper as host.



Shown in picture foreground are from left, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin, pastor of Oak Grove and St. Paul churches and a member of the College Board of Trustees, and the Rev. Adrian Grubbs, Mount Olive College alumnus and pastor of Deep Run church and President Raper.

Churches wishing to visit should contact Dr. Raper or Mrs. Jean Ackiss at (919) 658-2502.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES SET MAY 12



C. Felix Harvey III

Over 100 Mount Olive College students will receive degrees at the 1978 Commencement Exercises, Friday, May 12, at 5:30 p. m. on the Moye Library lawn.

Senator Harold Hardison of Deep Run, and member of the College Board of Trustees will introduce, agribusiness entrepreneur, C. Felix Harvey III, of Kinston, who will deliver the Commencement address.

Harvey is a 1943 graduate of UNC at Chapel Hill with a B. S. degree in Commerce. He is the principal stockholder, officer or director of 22 privately held companies and four public companies including L. Harvey and Son Company of Kinston, Dixie Chemical Corporation of New Bern, Wayne Grain Company of Goldsboro, and the organizer of Life of North Carolina Insurance Company.

As diverse as his business interest, Harvey is actively involved in community endeavors like Kinston Industrial Development Commission, Kinston Salvation Army Advisory Board, former member of the Kinston School Board, past president of the UNC Business Foundation, UNC Educational Foundations, and President of the North Carolina Citizens Association 1976-77 to name a few.

Harvey describes his formula for success as the ability to understand people, the ability to motivate people, and the willingness to work hard. He questions what's happened to hustle, want-to and hard work.

He is married to the former Margaret Little Blount of Pitt County and they have two children.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK



Lisa Potter

Nineteen-year-old Lisa Potter from Seven Springs is Mount Olive College Student of the Week.

A sophomore, Lisa will be a 1978 graduate with a major in Business Administration. She plans to continue her education, specializing in Accounting.

While attending Mount Olive, Lisa served as a Marshal her freshman year.

She is a Dean's List student, member of the Phi Theta Kappa for honor students, and current president of the business fraternity, Phi Beta Lambda. Lisa was also named to "Who's Who In American Junior Colleges."

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milo Potter and a member of Daly's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Seven Springs.

MY MOTHER

(In Memory of Mrs. Rebecca Tripp)

by Velma Harris
Greenville, North Carolina

Mother, dear, you waited so long
To hold me in your loving arms;
I can almost see your smiling face
As you saw me wrapped in silk and lace:
Soon the time came, and you took me home—
This time was spent for me alone.
But you had many other things to do:
You had four older children, too;
I was in the middle you see,
For eight more were to come after me.
God in His wisdom knew just what to do:
He took five as babies with Him, you know.
Leaving you eight, to live, work, and grow.
With the help of our Lord and my dear Dad.
You did the best with what you had:
You worked so hard from dawn till dusk.
Always depending on God with your trust.
Although our clothes were patched, faded, and worn,
They always were clean, starched, and ironed:
We were clothed and fed with loving care—
And you didn't mind taking us anywhere.
As we grew up amid love and prayer.
We were never afraid, because you were there:
The love you gave, we can never repay:
We'll never forget the way you'd pray.
As you grew older, and your hair turned gray.
You listened to all we had to say:
You told us to hold our heads up high—
That we'd all meet again in the sweet by and by.
Well, Mother and Dad have both gone to rest:
But I know they did their very best
To provide a home of love and care
For the family and friends who were always there.
Mother and Dad, we miss you so much—
Your hands that had the gentle touch:
But we knew when God called, you had to go:
We resign ourselves to His will, you know.
Dear Lord, as I go to thee in prayer,
Let me be one who really cares:
Give me the wisdom to know each day
The things to do, the words to say:
Let me be humble and thankful, too:
And let the world know that I love you.

CRAGMONT

CRAGMONT NEWS

When you read this article, we will already be back at Cragmont scrubbing and cleaning—getting ready for another great summer. Cragmont officially opens this year on May 15. This summer we will be operating under the same conditions as last year. Our capacity is 135 people, and we will have to work together to make camp as enjoyable as possible under these circumstances.

We are sorry to inform those groups interested in booking a weekend retreat that our weekends are already booked through October 31, which is our closing date. However, we have a waiting list for those groups who want to come, in the event there is a cancellation.

Many of you are asking about the beginning of construction on the new Main Buiilding. The contractor and the loan are sitting on "Go." But there is some paperwork for the government that has to be completed before the actual construction can begin. Our attorney has informed us that this paperwork should be completed by the middle of May.

On Sunday, April 30, the State Woman's Auxiliary held a Cragmont Rally at the Spring Hill church. It was almost like the annual Woman's Conference at Cragmont! During the rally, 28 square feet of the new Main Building were purchased, and a free-will offering of $1,237.87 was taken. Our women came through again! Cragmont owes a lot to our women. A special recognition goes to the YFA of the Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church who held a walk-a-thon for Cragmont and raised $375.

Pray for us as we begin another season at Cragmont. We love all of you people, and we deeply appreciate your support.

In His Service,
Douglas Skinner
Manager-Promotion Secretary

ATTENTION! SEMINARY-EUREKA COLLEGE ALUMNI

The annual meeting of the Alumni Association of the Free Will Baptist Seminary and Eureka College will be held at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, Wednesday, May 10, at 10 a. m. The Rev. L. E. Ballard, president of the association, urges all alumni and friends to be in attendance.

Mrs. Mabel Stokes, secretary of the association, reminds all members and friends of the importance of the meeting. Your interest and support are necessary for the preservation of this portion of Free Will Baptist history.

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475.
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Is it wrong for a Christian to swear to tell the truth when he is summoned to testify in a court trial?

Answer: No, I do not think so. Some members of some religious sects feel that it is and are allowed to affirm they are telling the whole truth and only the truth. To refuse to conform as some have in the case of being called to give testimony in court hearings would, I think, violate a scriptural doctrine. We are taught in God's Word: "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you" (Hebrews 13:17); also "Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work" (Titus 3:1); and "And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (1 Samuel 15:22); "This day the LORD thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul" (Deuteronomy 26:16); also "But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you" (Jeremiah 7:23); and "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).

The Bible teaches us as a society to live in harmony with each other and has prescribed rules through which to do this in some cases and has laid lown general principles in others. We are to follow all the rules and we are to follow the principles in making and establishing such rules as will guide us in the obedience of principles to which the Word of God gives no specific rules.

Again we call attention to the fact that it is essential that every Christian become sufficiently familiar with what the Bible teaches to be able to personally apply its teaching to himself in every need he has. Such passages as "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15); "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. . . .Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:11, 105); are not in the Bible for their beauty in rhetoric only, but that every one may learn them and understand them to the degree that they may be able to personally appreciate them and apply them in any and every need that they may have.

George H. Sandison has the following to say in answering a similiar question in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered:**

"The judicial oath or solemn asseveration or promise, as in the presence of God, that you will tell the truth, should not be confounded with oaths of another character. An oath to take vengeance, uttered in the name of Deity, is an illustration of the perverted use of a solemn adjuration. So, also, is an oath taken in levity. An appeal to God, or to any sacred thing, was a custom among the ancient Hebrews, who used such oaths in private and official business. The Christian custom of taking judicial oaths was founded upon the Jewish, the oath on the Gospels in court being the legitimate adaptation of the Hebrew mode of placing the hands upon the Book of the Law. There are certain sects, including the Mennonites, Quakers and Moravians, who apply literally the words of Christ, 'Swear not at all', and therefore regard all oaths as unlawful. In view of all the facts, the taking of a judicial oath, or promise before Deity to tell the truth and render exact justice in the cause at issue, must remain a matter to be decided by the conscience of the individual."

NEWS NOTES

Mount Tabor Gets New Pastor



The Rev. Ransom H. McAbee

The Rev. Ransom H. McAbee of Spartanburg, South Carolina, accepted the Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church, near Creswell, North Carolina, as pastor on April 16, 1978. He is a member of the Pee Dee Conference and the White Oak church in Bladenboro.

He has pastored churches in North and South Carolina. Mr. McAbee attended schools in Spartanburg and Edneyville.

He and his wife, Edna Webb McAbee, have four children: Raymond and Robert of Spartanburg; Mrs. Janice Branson of Lamar, South Carolina; and Rodney of Bladenboro, North Carolina.

Two-Night Singspiration at First Church, Greenville

The Laymen's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will be having a two-night singspiration May 19, at First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, and May 20, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro. The services will begin at 7:30 each evening.

A love offering will be received for the Cragmont Building Fund.

The Central Conference invites you and your family and friends to come and enjoy the fellowship and singing.

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE
JUNE 26—JULY 1

BEGIN PLANNING NOW TO ATTEND

The time is fast approaching for the Christian Cadet Conference Camp at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain. A good program has been planned and all we need is you. The cost of camp this year will be $50. If you have not registered for camp, please do so on the application below. Registration fee is $7, with the remainder due upon boarding the bus.

APPLICATION

Name _____

Age _____

Address _____

Parents or Guardian _____

Church _____

Send application to:

The Rev. Bobby R. Taylor

Director-Registrar

Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, N. C. 28590

There will be an additional cost of $5 for a planned trip and $2 for a group picture, if the individual would like one. (Optional)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For May 21

HOW PARTIAL ARE WE?

Lesson Text: Acts 11:1-18
Memory Verse: Acts 11:18

I. INTRODUCTION

The word "prejudice" is ugly; but the fact itself is more horrible. Essentially, its meaning is a preconceived and usually unfavorable attitude toward one group or race—an attitude rooted in fear, suspicion, or intolerance.

No man can say exactly when this unholy and unworthy feeling first entered the heart of man. But prejudice was evident at least as long ago as the time of Joseph when the Egyptians would not eat with the Hebrews (Genesis 43:32). The infamous history of national prejudice appears in curious fashion in the vocabularies of certain people. A man was either a Greek or a worthless barbarian; he was an Egyptian or a stranger; he was a Roman citizen or he was a slave. More recently, in Nazi Germany, a man was a Aryan or of an inferior race. Today, we see many degrees of prejudice, and the ugly philosophy and practice takes several forms among us.

Unfounded dislikes and judgments pronounced on artificial bases can make fools of us, and they are often very difficult to detect, especially in ourselves.

God had no intention of letting His plan for the salvation of mankind become the exclusive property of the Jews. He had seen their national pride in divine selection become the basis for strong prejudice against all other people. As Christianity expanded in Jerusalem, Judea, and the surrounding regions, the Jewish Christians had no intention of sharing the gospel with Gentiles. They had to see that God's offer of redemption from sin was for everyone, Jew or Gentile alike. For this purpose God brought together the Apostle Peter and the Gentile Cornelius.

In last week's lesson we studied part of what occurred when Peter was directed to the house of Cornelius by the Holy Spirit. The remainder of that extraordinary occurrence is related in this lesson. It is incorporated in Peter's defense before the brethren in Jerusalem, who had learned that he had entered the house of a Gentile and had criticized him for it.

Luke closed the account of Peter's visit to the household of Cornelius with a brief but succinct comment. After the newly-won followers of Christ were immersed in His name, the historian adds, "Then prayed they him to tarry certain days" (10:48). We have no difficulty in assuming that Peter's work during those days was to cultivate and deepen the faith of the young Christians in Caesarea.

But while Peter remained in Caesarea "certain days" to instruct these new converts, word of his association with Gentiles was being spread throughout Judea. This report was unsettling to the brethren, if not to all at least to a strong Judaizing element in the church, and brought about a confrontation with the apostle when he returned to Jerusalem.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Scriptures in today's lesson are plain and clear. In many Bible commentaries very little comment is given on them. However, this does not mean that this is not an important lesson. The decision of the church to preach the gospel to the Gentiles was one of the greatest that the church has ever made. It kept the church from being a local Jewish organization and made it a universal organization for all believers.

B. Remember that the Apostle Peter was shown in the gospels to be impulsive and hot-tempered. Here, when his fellow apostles criticize him, he reacts calmly. He grew in the grace of our Lord. Are we learning to accept criticism and opposition better as we grow in grace and mature as Christians?

C. Compare the facts that Peter gives here to the facts recorded earlier; they are alike. Evidently Peter's mind was already made up. He knew what he was going to do, so he simply told the story, including the fact that he was led by the Holy Spirit.

D. Two things kept the Jews from preaching the gospel to the Gentiles at first: prejudice and tradition. These same two things have kept the church from growing in many areas today. Seek to be more concerned with the will of God than with the traditions of the church.

E. This lesson shows us how differences in the church may be solved. First, the rest of the apostles accepted Peter's word about what had happened. We must learn to trust one another. Second, they were concerned more with God's will than with their own traditions and desires. Third, they glorified God for what had happened through Peter.

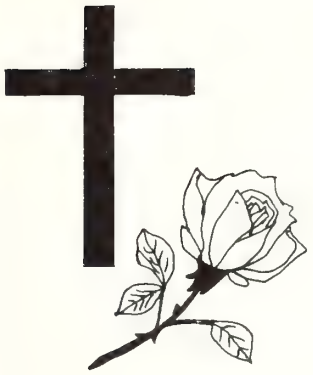
—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. We need to examine our prejudices—our attitudes toward people of other races—and discover if we are truly impartial. This discovery may not be what we want it to be, and we may have to confess to God that we have been partial rather than impartial toward those whom we think are of less importance.

B. Even today, many Christians and congregations are still going around in circles. A woman asked for a compass in the dime store and the clerk replied, "We have a compass for drawing circles but not for going places."

—Selected



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

There are those moments and experiences in life when God moves by His mighty Spirit to bring renewal, joy, and a new flash of insight into one's life! That was my experience at Eagles Nest as I participated in a Yoke-fellow retreat led by a dynamic and Spirit-filled leader. The retreat was a time of being filled anew with the Holy Spirit to the point ". . .that my cup runneth over." It was an experience to reflect on the holiness of God, His great love and His enduring patience with His children.

How small is our imagination and thought of Him who is King of kings and Lord of lords, who inhabits the circle of eternity, whose name is Holy, yet dwells with those of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the heart of the contrite! May He be praised forever by all His creation.

May each reader claim His Word and promise in Jeremiah 29:12-14, "Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will hear . . . you. . . .you will seek Me . . . and find Me; when you search for Me with all your heart, I will be found by you, says the Lord. . . ."

May He meet you in the secret place of your heart and life!

FH
Mount Olive, N. C.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. James Warren of Kinston, North Carolina, announces that he is available for a full-time church. He is in good standing in the Eastern Conference.

Mr. Warren can be reached by calling, 527-1648; or writing him at, 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501. He is available to come and hold services when called. Any church in need of a pastor may feel free to call.

Evangelist Arnold Woodlief desires to fill a schedule of revivals as an evangelist who is needing evangelistic work to do. You may send him dates to enlist on his schedule at 410 West Milton Avenue, Marianna, Florida 32446. His telephone number is 1-904-482-4659.

Russell's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Beaufort, will be in need of a pastor beginning the third week of June. The church has services every Sunday morning and Sunday night. For further information, contact Virgil Day, Route 1, Box 375, Beaufort, North Carolina or phone 728-3038; or Harold Rolison, P. O. Box 665, Beaufort, North Carolina 28516, or phone 728-4243.

The Rev. Jimmy Webster states that he is available for pastoral services. He has been an ordained minister for almost 14 years. You may get in touch with him by writing Route 1, Box 224-A, Pinetown, North Carolina, 27865; or telephone 943-3987.

SOUL WINNING
(Proverbs 11:30)

by Evangelist Arnold Woodlief

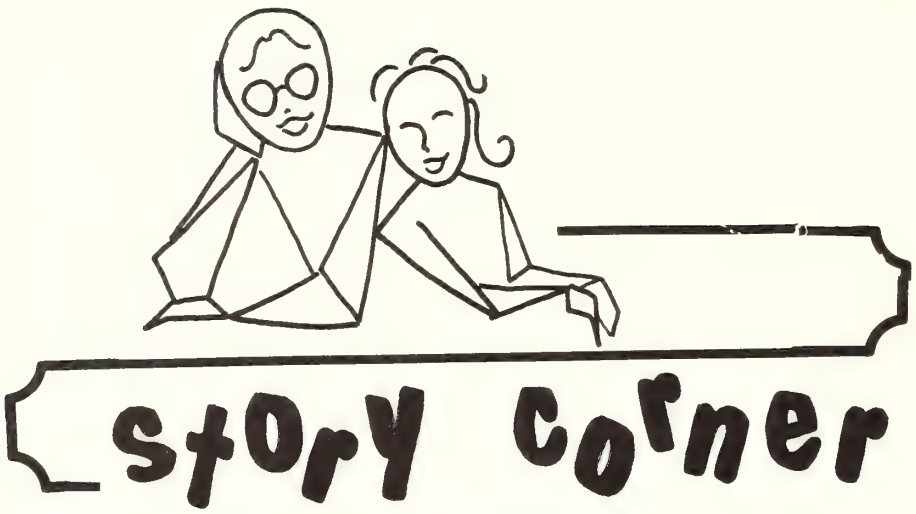
Solomon said, "He that winneth souls is wise." This is one of the "diamond gems of inspiration" having for its theme, the salvation of man. When a soul is born into the Kingdom of Christ, his first impulse is to save others from the same destruction for which he was headed. He prays, "O strengthen me that I may stand firm on a rock and strong in thee, and that I may stretch forth a loving hand to wrestlers with the troubled sea."

To win souls to Christ should be the greatest ambition of every child of God. He should, with untiring zeal, make the best preparation. While many qualifications are desirable, some few are imperative in order to be a soul winner.

(1) A certainty of one's own salvation. No one can teach another about salvation unless he has known it himself. It is not the experience of a good life that is necessary, but the experience of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, secured through His atoning blood. Paul had no doubt about his salvation as is testified to in his epistles when he said "I know" and "I am persuaded." The Christian who possesses this intimate knowledge of Jesus can easily impart it to others.

(2) A consistent godly life. Paul, in addressing the Christians at Corinth said, "Ye are our epistles, known and read of all men." It should be said of a Christian that no one can be in his presence without desiring to become a Christian as well. It ought to be said of a minister that his life is best of all though his preaching is good or his writing is better. A life conformed to the life of

(Continued on Page 15)



ESTHER: THE BEAUTIFUL QUEEN

LONG, long ago, there lived a Persian king who was also king over the Jews. He was, in fact, king over a hundred and twenty-seven provinces. He decided to give a feast for all of his princes. It was a grand feast. At the same time, his beautiful queen, Vashti, was giving a feast for all of the women of the royal house.

The feast had been continuing for seven days, and the king was full of wine. He decided to send for the queen to show her off in front of the princes. He was proud of her beauty and wanted the others to see how beautiful she was. He sent for her; but she, being very busy with her own feast, refused to come. This made the king very angry. He declared that she would never again be seen by him, and that he would have another for his queen.

He issued a decree that all of the young girls in the kingdom were to be brought before him to pick the one who would become the next queen.

In one of his provinces there was a beautiful Jewish girl named Esther. She lived with an uncle named Mordecai. When she passed before the king, he thought that there had never been one so lovely. He chose her to be his queen. He did not know that she was Jewish.

Mordecai stayed close to the king's palace in order to keep an eye on Esther and see that she was well. While he was there, he heard of a plot against the life of the king. He told it to Esther, and she, in turn, told the king. The men were found and hanged upon the tree.

The person next to the king in authority, Haman, was revered and bowed to by all of the people except Mordecai. This made Haman hate all of the Jews, for he knew that Mordecai was a Jew; but he did not know he was the uncle of the queen. He sought to kill all of the Jews.

He talked the king into issuing an order that all of the people who had laws other than those of the king should be destroyed. The Jews had the laws that God had given them, and they must keep these laws. Therefore, according to the decree of the king and Haman, they must all be destroyed.

Haman ordered that all of the Jews be killed. Mordecai was very upset about this. He knew, that with him and the rest of the Jews. Esther, the beautiful queen, would also die. He told Esther about it. She knew that she must go to the king and tell him that she was Jewish. She must get him to change the orders. She must save her people.

There was a law that no one went to see the king unless he or she had been sent for by the king. If anyone entered without being sent for, it meant certain death, unless the king held out his golden scepter in welcome.

Esther knew that she must risk this. The lives of all of her people were at stake.

She said to Mordecai, "Go, gather all of the Jews in the city together. Fast for me for three days: neither eat nor drink: I and my maids will fast, too; then I will go before the king.

On the third day, Esther put on her royal robes and went to the court of the king. When the king saw her, he held out the golden scepter to her in welcome. He said, "What may I do for you? Anything that you ask shall be yours, even if it is half of the kingdom."

Esther invited the king and Haman to a banquet at her apartment.

Haman was so elated with the invitation to a banquet with the king and queen that he had the gallows made to hang Mordecai.

That night the king could not sleep; he was reading over the records. He found that it was Mordecai who saved his life by telling the queen of the plot against him. He asked Haman, "What honor shall be given to a man who delighteth the king?"

Haman thought the king meant him and he said, "Let the royal robes be put upon him and the royal horse be brought for him to ride and the royal crown be set upon his head. Let him ride throughout the city so that all of the people shall know that the king is delighted with this man."

Much to the dislike of Haman, the king ordered that he do this for Mordecai. This made Haman hate Mordecai even more.

At the banquet of the queen, the king again asked what he could do for her. Esther asked the king to spare her life and that of her people. The king did not know what she was talking about, and she explained how the decree that he had allowed Haman to make would mean that she and all of her people would lose their lives. He did not know until then that she was a Jew.

The king was so angry that he would not allow himself to speak. He arose from

the banquet table and went into the garden to think what he would do.

While he was gone, Haman fell at the feet of Queen Esther and begged for his life; for he had not known that she was a Jew. He had not known that she was the niece of Mordecai, the man he had hated so.

The king returned, and it made him even angrier to see Haman there with his wife. He ordered that Haman be hanged on the scaffold that Haman had built for Mordecai.

The king exalted Mordecai in the place of Haman and made him the prime minister of all of the kingdom.

He also gave authority to all of the Jews of the land to kill the men who had followed Haman and were their enemies.

There was great rejoicing among the Jews. Their God had heard them and had been with the queen. He had caused the king to deliver them from their enemies again.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUES

The North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptist Leagues met with the Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Church, near Roper, North Carolina, on Saturday, March 11, 1978, at 10 a. m.

The Convention was one of great inspiration and success, as we worshiped, shared, and fellowshipped together.

New officers were elected for 1978-80 as follows:

President-The Rev. Bobby R. Taylor
Vice President—Lloyd Jones Jr.
Recording Secretary—Mrs. Judy Moore
Corresponding Secretary—Miss Leah McGlohon
Treasurer—Miss Leah McGlohon
Promotional Secretary—Mrs. Margaret Ard
Member-at-Large—Mrs. Mary Ann Patrick
Cragmont Representatives—The Rev. Billy Reynolds (1981), Clyde Hines (1980), the Rev. Jack Mayo (1979).

We ask that you pray for these officers and for the work in the leagues.

If the Executive Committee may be of assistance to any league or any church desiring to start a league, please feel at liberty to call on us.

Also, we remind you of The Christian Cadet Conference at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina, June 26-July 1, sponsored by the State League Convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobby R. Taylor, President

SOUL WINNING

(Continued from Page 13)

Christ is a wonderful power in soul winning.

(3) A spirit-filled life. A spiritual work calls for spiritual workmen. Christ requested His disciples be baptized or filled with the Holy Spirit or Holy Ghost and said, "But ye shall receive power after the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Spirit-filled men have ever been men full of zeal and power. The secret of winning souls to God is being Spirit-filled. A touch of the dynamic energy of the Holy Spirit is what we require if we are to win souls and turn their lives to channels of spirituality. These qualifications are imperative and if possessed will render us powerful in being soul winners faithful and true.

Coming Events . . .

May 12—Graduation Day, Mount Olive College
14—Mother's Day
14—Children's Home Day in Local Churches
20—Founder's Day Celebration, 10:30 a.m. Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

PLEASE NOTE

The Third Quarterly Report from January 1, 1978—March 31, 1978, as printed on Page 6 of last week's issue of the "Baptist" (Missions page), should have carried a statement identifying the report as Home Missions. We are sorry for the possible confusion with foreign missions.

Editorial . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

We do not hate the Moonies—hating them would be inconsistent with Christian teaching. But we do deplore the so-called "heavenly deceit" which they advocate and practice. In the spirit of Christian love, we feel that we should direct them toward Christ—the *only way* of salvation.

The Bible teaches us to ". . . believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1). This fact is much in evidence today. It is frightening indeed when a person of any culture, race, or nationality sets himself up (or allows himself to be set up) as the Saviour of the world.

Note Matthew 24:4, 5: ". . . Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."

HOW TO WORSHIP

Be silent.
Be thoughtful.
Be reverent,
For this is the house of the Lord.
BEFORE the service, speak to God.
DURING the service, let God speak to you.
AFTER the service, speak to one another.

PASTOR'S CONFERENCE

for
Eastern Conference Ministers

MAY 26, 27

Friday 5:00 thru Saturday 3:00

SPONSORED BY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF EASTERN CONFERENCE
AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CAMP VANDEMERE

all Ministers, especially Eastern Conference, welcome

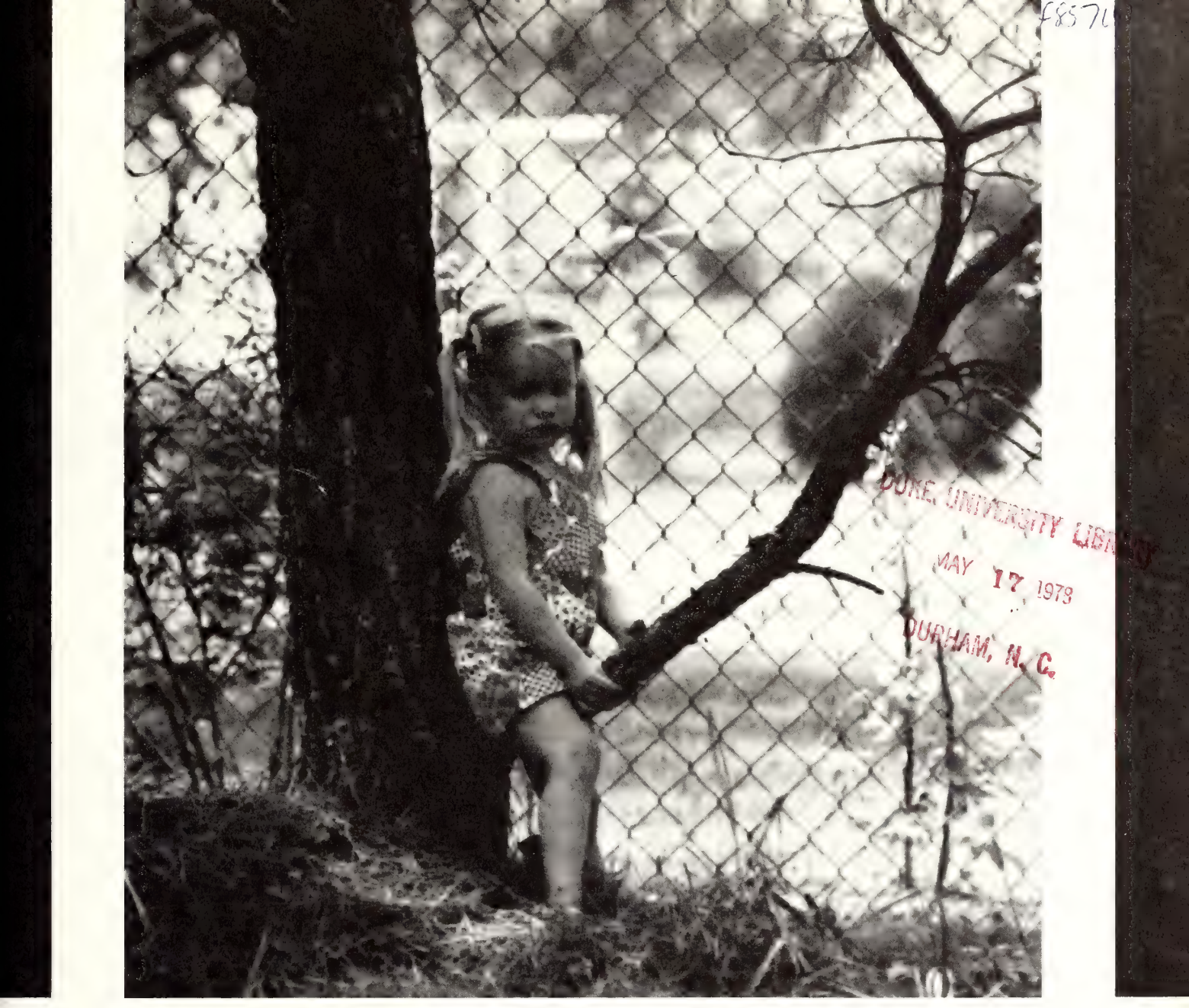
Please notify

Ralph Sumner
Oriental, N. C.

if you plan to attend

Study, Worship, Fellowship

Subject: Sharing the work of the sub-committee for the Revision of the Statement of Faith and Discipline



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DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
MAY 17 1979
DURHAM, N. C.

If given the opportunity, children can guard and protect our dreams for a better world . . . .

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MAY 17, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

WHAT CHILDREN REALLY ARE

Photo by Walter Reynolds

(May: Children's Home Month)

Some anonymous person gave his definition of a child many years ago. So profound was that personal evaluation that posterity recorded it in several journals, books, and articles, to be preserved for future reference.

In the definition, children are described as *banks where you may deposit your most precious treasures—the hard-won wisdom, the dreams for a better world.* When we look at children, the sum-total of what they are, we should see potential. We should recognize that they are much like tender plants which will grow in accord with the nourishment they receive. Like those plants, they do not have the nourishment guaranteed.

Too often, children are left to fend for themselves, to grasp what they can, to strain toward growth, only to become disillusioned when they discover that life is too hard for them. Dare we consider depositing our dreams for a better world with those who have not been guided toward strong living—toward security of heart and mind and body?

If given the opportunity, children can guard and protect our dreams for a better world; and, as the anonymous writer puts it: *invest* (those dreams) *and win a profit.* But who would entrust any great care, concern, or value to the uncertainty of an undisciplined mind or heart? Who would want to risk losing not only his profit, but his investment as well?

If we allow children to grow as they will, without proper guidance or direction, we cannot expect the benefit of added interest to our trust. We cannot expect them to *respect us,* let alone *invest our dreams.* It is understandable that *their* dreams and *ours* may not be identical, but we must help them develop *values* that will afford them and future generations that *better world* of which we *all* dream.

Youth will inherit our world—all of it—all of its opportunities *and* troubles. It is our duty to provide something better than we have, something which will merit appreciation, something which will offer encouragement. We should not attempt to make the world "a flowery bed of ease." We should determine, rather, to provide greater and better opportunities than were provided for us.

All our work—whether good or bad—suggests the writer, *will be judged* by the children. It behooves us, then, to set the proverbial good example. Its acceptance will be up to them. Our main frame of reference should be the Holy Word. We must adhere to its teachings and strive to amplify it through word and action. lest any blame be forthcoming. If, on the other hand, we choose to live loosely, "shifting with every wind or doctrine," we can only expect the children who model themselves after us to be unsure of their principles. And, it is likely that their motivation, if any, will be of the wrong sort. Our indiscreet actions will mar, if not destroy, the soundness of our advice.

The Bible exhorts: Train up a child in the way he should go. The *way* is provided in the Scriptures. It is for us to attend to the duty given us. It is necessary for us to order priorities, to bear in mind that children will reflect our generation in attitude and action. Will they hate us for what we've done or have not done? Will they love us for having provided discipline when it was needed, or will they curse us for our unwarranted strictness?

As we tend the "plants," we do not force the growth; we encourage it. We dare not impose our care; we offer it. We suggest; we do not demand—except in the case of *right* and *wrong*—and even here we must be cautious. Self-styled judges seldom, if ever, mete out error-free justice.

What children really are, are *persons.* They differ from us only in that they lack experience and the so-called "wisdom of the years." They should not be neglected nor disregarded; they should be made to feel important. After all, the future is theirs. That being the case, it has been pointed out that they deserve a little more of our attention *now.*

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THE CHALLENGE OF THE PHILIPPINES

by the Rev. Ed Miles

(Final Installment)

HEALTH services in the Philippines leave much to be desired. Blindness rates third highest in the world. Palawan has one doctor for every 6,533 people, one dentist for over 15,000, and one midwife for about every 6,000. Malaria is the number one killer, followed by tuberculosis and pneumonia. Stillbirths are very common and many people patronize quack doctors. The lack of toilets adds to the already major population problems. The people eat and sleep on the floor, having no furniture at all. The chickens, many times, will lay eggs in the house; cats are often on the table; and cooking over open fires add to the health problem. Sometimes you even find little pigs inside the nipa hunts that are used as homes.

One of the pastors came to our house in Angeles City and spent the night with us. The next morning Bess and I learned, after he left, that he slept on the floor instead of the bed. I doubt if he has ever slept on a bed in his entire life.

The Philippines has an entire island set aside as a leper colony. Pest control is also adding to the problem. There are about 1,500 acres infested with wild hogs and monkeys in Palawan.

Health services seem to be fighting a losing battle because the Philippines have one of the world's fastest growing populations. They have a total population of forty-five million, with one million squatters living in Manila. The population explosion has caused the President to decree that a family must pay a special tax if it has more than four children. However, it is good to observe that family planning is beginning.

Schools are another weak area. There are thousands of small children who are not in school. The schools out in the provinces have little or no equipment; they have dirt floors, no windows, and no doors. The government estimates, I think, are low: that forty-two percent of the thirteen to sixteen-year-olds are in school, and ten grades is as high as the government offers, and in some places it is only seven.

Let us look now at transportation and communication.

Any time you leave the rough and broken main roads you travel poorly-kept dirt roads. American World War II trucks and buses are still running. Overall, there are very few paved roads. To go to our church at Tamnao, you ride a bus, most of it on dirt roads, for ten hours, and then a boat for three hours. This is a total of thirteen hours. But the last time I made the trip, it took me about twenty-one hours because of flat tires, breakdowns, and the like. I saw no junk yards over there; they keep their vehicles running regardless of age.

My garbage was collected most of the time in hand trucks pushed by women and children or in an American World War II truck. You ride the bus with the chickens, pigs, etc., or you don't ride at all.

The mail from one island to another takes about ten days to two weeks—about the same time it takes a letter from here to there. The Philippines is now open to the Japanese for the first time since World War II. They travel in groups and are very careful not to venture very far into the country for fear of being killed. I know of places where they had better not go.

There are eighty-seven different dialects and languages in the Philippines. Tagalog is the official state language. About half of the people speak English. There is only one radio station on the island of Palawan. One child asked me one day what was television.

Eighty-seven percent of the Filipino people are adherents of the Roman Catholic faith. Most of these don't take their faith seriously. There are two minority groups which have never accepted the Catholic or Christian faith. They are the Muslims in the south who number about two and a half million, following the teachings of Islam. Also there are the Negritos, whom we visited, who still continue to practice pagan rites. The Wycliffe translation and New Tribe missionaries are now reaching many of these groups by putting the gospel into the tribal language. Today there are over 1,250 Protestant missionaries serving the Philippines under nearly seventy different missionary organizations.

About one million Filipinos now claim allegiance to some form of Protestantism. The Southern Baptists have over seventy families there. This group is baptizing over 3,000 converts each year. It has been found that any method which is used will work in the Philippines. During the last Billy Graham crusade in Manila, more than 9,000 college students professed faith in Christ. Yet thousands—I have seen them—line up in long lines to kiss the feet of a Black Nazarene in Manila churches. Others walk on their knees in long lines to get to the altar in some churches. Still others show their religious fervor by being a "volunteer Christ," literally having themselves nailed to a cross on Easter Sunday to rid themselves of their sins.

Where does all this leave Free Will Baptists? Our plans are to start a school on the island of Palawan. At the present, if you count all faiths on this island, including Catholics, you will have only forty percent. Due to the rapid population increase, the government estimates this figure will drop to twenty-seven percent in ten years.

The mining and oil exploration is bringing new people to the island every day. The government thinks the island population will reach one million by 1986. This will triple the population. This means that Free Will Baptists will have a tremendous opportunity and responsibility to reach these people for Christ. This is a wide open field where any method will win people to Christ.

I feel God has led us to this place and we ought to respond to the need. As soon as Brother King can purchase land and get the school started, the Philippines can use any number of missionaries we are able to send. We will need teachers, tradesman, and at least one farmer.

I know of the possibilities that are there and I know that God wants us to meet the challenge.

What will you do?



SUNDAY, MAY 21

Scripture Reading—Psalm 37:3

"JUST AS SOON SWEAR AS WORRY"—WESLEY

There is a little motto that hangs on the wall in my home that again and again has rebuked me: "Why worry when you can pray?" We have often been reminded of the words of the Psalmist, "Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity" (Psalm 37:1). Mr. Wesley used to say that he would just as soon swear as to worry. Worry is evidence of a serious lack of trust in God and His unfailing promises. Worry saddens, blights, destroys, kills. It depletes one's energies, devitalizes the physical man, and enervates the whole spiritual nature. It greatly reduces the spiritual stature and impoverishes the whole spirit.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Worry can harden a person's heart. It can turn a person from God, instead of toward Him. Only prayer lightens a person's burdens.

MONDAY, MAY 22

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 33:11

HUNTING AN EASY BERTH

The story is told that a student once wrote to Henry Ward Beecher asking the great preacher "for an easy berth." To this student Mr. Beecher replied: "Young man, you cannot be an editor; do not try the law; do not think of the ministry; let alone all ships and merchandise; abhor politics; don't practice medicine; be not a farmer, a soldier, or a sailor; don't study; don't think. None of these is easy. Oh, my son, you have come into a hard world. I know of only one easy place in it and that is in the grave!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Work never hurt anyone. When a person is not working, it makes a place for a devil's workshop. God likes to see a man work.

TUESDAY, MAY 23

Scripture Reading—Revelation 1:5

HOW GOD TOOK CARE OF GIL DODDS

Gil Dodds is the minister's boy who came out of Nebraska to step off the fastest mile ever run on an indoor track. Time 4:10.6. At the end of a race the crowd wondered when he picked up a microphone to acknowledge their applause and said: "I thank the Lord for guiding me through the race, and seeing fit to let me win. I thank Him always for His guiding presence." The rafters of Madison Square Garden must have trembled: these were new words there. "I don't win those races. God wins them. You see, God has given me all I have. I have one great lack. I didn't have the one thing the coaches say a long-distance runner simply must have. I couldn't sprint at the end of the mile. But God took care of that. In place of the sprint he gave me stamina." And that is correct. Dodds sprints the whole distance. He sets a killing pace all the way.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We can witness through God in our work or in our play. He helps us to win the battle of life.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

Scripture Reading—Acts 21:14

TAKING LOSS AS A CHRISTIAN

A Christian woman recently learned that most of the family possessions and furniture she and her husband owned had been completely destroyed in a warehouse fire. Some of the things were priceless family heirlooms, which no money could replace. The shock was a severe one, but she quietly committed the whole matter to the Lord, and trusted Him. A friend of hers, living in the same apartment house, noticed the quietness and entire lack of worry in the face and bearing of the one who had just incurred the heavy loss. Coming up to her, she said, "I didn't know any Christian could take anything this way!" Perhaps the woman had drawn her inference as to Christianity from her observation of most "Christians."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it funny how Christians are judged with others as being people of the world? Only God knows and recognizes the real calmness of a Christian.

THURSDAY, MAY 25

Scripture Reading—Matthew 7:21

WHEN SHE OBEYED

In my congregation once there was a young lady who was afflicted with bad health. The doctors couldn't locate her trouble. Her parents spent a lot of money consulting specialists and seeking to bring her to health. It was to no avail. One Sunday I preached a message to young people on surrendering to Christ for special service. The young lady came forward and weepingly confessed that she had been fighting such a special call, and said: "As you know, my health has been bad. My parents don't know what is wrong. The doctors can't locate the trouble. But I know. I have known all the time. God is afflicting me because I won't do His will." Following that surrender her health adjusted itself, and she is today a trained and gifted nurse in a great hospital.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How are we to know what God has in store for our lives? We may be

trying to do one thing in life, but God may have a will for us to do something else in serving Him.

FRIDAY, MAY 26

Scripture Reading—2 Peter 2:14

JUST AS I AM

A little girl, anxious about her soul, waited at the close of one of Moody's meetings. One worker advised her to "Read the Bible." Another to "Pray to God." In agony of soul she went home, got on her knees, and cried, "O Lord, I cannot read, I cannot pray; so take me as I am."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many of us have sung the song, "Just As I Am" as an invitation. How many of us have accepted the invitation to come to the Saviour? He is waiting for you.

SATURDAY, MAY 27

Scripture Reading—Psalm 4:5

SAFELY TO THE OTHER SIDE

A great man once said that of all the experiences of his life that he could remember, there was nothing that gave him such unmixed joy as when, on a crowded street of a great city, a little child looked up into his face, and put his tiny hand in his great one, and said, "Take me across the street to the other side." It was an honor to the strong man to take that trusting child across the street to the other side. Are there not streets ahead for you to cross? Is there some difficulty that you must meet, and do you need a strong arm to take you over to the other side? Put your hand in the hand of Christ. Simple confidence in Him will delight His heart.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many of us have sung, "Put Your Hand in the Hand." What a wonderful song to sing! It is about Jesus.

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JESUS-STYLE

by Mrs. Hersel Bowen
Winterville, N.C.

"Oh Mama! Mama!" a child said. "I heard what you said so many times, but I never listened. My excuse is, I was young. I thought you were an old-style liver. Many times you said to me 'That's not Jesus' style of living.' Yes, Mama, I heard. Now that it's much later I'll listen. If only I could go back and erase some of the things I've done or said."

As I look into the mirror of time gone by, we have seen many changes. Life-styles have changed, some for good, and some not too good. Jesus' style remains the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. What a beautiful style of life we'd all live if we followed Jesus' life-style of going about doing good for others. Jesus never worried about a beautiful home in which to live, taking a lifetime working and paying for it. We can gain a worldly wealth of things; but at the end of this life if this is all we have, we are so heavenly poor. Have you ever looked at the rich and wished for the car, house, or life you think they live? Beware! All that glitters is not gold.

Jesus was content to be busy about His Father's business, talking and listening and helping others. Time to Him meant doing for others.

We will have problems as long as we live in this world. But if we have tried to guide our own in the way they should go and they fail us, we don't stop loving and caring—we care that much more. Our heart's desire is for our own to go upward. We pray that they will see Jesus' life-style and follow Him.

We must never turn our backs on someone that's made a mistake. We must help them get back to the path they should follow.

We can't carry the whole world's problems on our back, but thank God, He will take our burdens and carry them for us. If you have never known disappointment, heartache, or sorrow, you are most blessed. Remember, we Christians are so blessed to have Jesus by our side in all our times of life. If we would spend as much time telling others about the goodness of Jesus, as we spend in complaining about our troubles, maybe our troubles would be fewer.

Help us dear God, not to think we are wiser than others. Help us to run this race of time in your style. Console us when we fall or those we love fall. We thank you for putting the desire for an upward reach into the hearts of man.

When God draws the curtain of time and pins time with a star, I hope and pray that we will be where He is forever.

May we say with Mary Frances Butts:

Build a little fence of trust around today;
Fill each space with loving work and therein stay.
Look not through the sheltering bars upon tomorrow—
God will help thee bear what comes of joy or sorrow.

If you have heartaches today, remember you are never alone—if you have Jesus.

God give us all a forgiving mind and heart! Remember, none of us is perfect.

INFORMATION FROM THE WESTERN CONFERENCE BOARD OF ORDINATION

License revoked: The license to preach issued to Mr. Dwight Gay have been recalled. Dwight Gay is no longer a licensed minister of the Original Free Will Baptist Church of North Carolina.

Ordination Credentials Reinstated: The Rev. Harold Jones has met with the Western Conference Board of Ordination clearing up in a satisfactory manner the doctrinal issue which lead to his voluntary surrender of his credentials in 1975. We recommend him to any of our churches for pastoral or revival work. His credentials were reinstated as of May 5, 1978.

De W. Eakes, Clerk
Western Conference Board
of Ordination

PARSONAGE LIFE: THE WIFE'S VIEWPOINT

TWO-PERSON CAREER OR TWO-CAREER MARRIAGE?

by Mary G. Taylor

The Protestant ministry is in the throes of change, but probably few would designate the minister's wife as an important instrument of that change. Nevertheless, the results of a survey of 448 ministers' wives drawn from six mainline, middle-class denominations (American Baptist Churches, Christian Church, Lutheran Church in America, Episcopal Church, United Methodist Church and United Presbyterian Church) suggest that a shift in employment and family relationships is taking place in parsonages throughout the country. Minister's wives, acting as individuals rather than as an organized group, have begun to replace the usual pattern of the ministry—the two-person career—with the newer pattern of the two-career marriage.

The term ''two-person career'' was coined several years ago by sociologist Hannah Papanek to describe the situation in which only the husband is formally employed, but the wife as well is expected to contribute her time, energy and talents to his career. In short, the employing institution gets two for the price of one. The corporation hires an executive and also acquires a gracious hostess who can entertain his important customers; the university employs a professor and also gains a typist, editor and (often) collaborator who can work on his research. As Shirley Hartley and I have argued, the Protestant ministry provides both the historical prototype and the extreme case of the two-person career: of all the women who marry professional men, the minister's wife finds herself the most involved in her husband's occupation.

The Ministry As a Two-Person Career

Traditionally, the participation of the minister's wife has taken many forms: attending church functions, holding office in women's organizations, teaching Sunday School, playing the piano, editing and typing sermons and articles, visiting parishioners, acting as church secretary. Many factors help determine which of these activities are expected of any particular wife: denominational custom, the size, status and location of the congregation, the husband's professional level and duties. The wife's age, health, talents and family responsibilities also play some part in shaping her involvement in the two-person career. The survey showed that most wives were engaged in some of the foregoing activities. While 23 percent spent three hours or less a week in the two-person career, 35 percent contributed four to nine hours, 31 percent spent 10-18 hours, and 11 percent put in 19-33 hours on ministry-related activities. These figures probably underestimate actual participation; some time-consuming tasks like answering the telephone were not listed on the questionnaire.

Involvement in the husband's ministry was accompanied by acceptance of the principle of the two-person career: that the clergy wife does—and should—find her satisfaction in life vicariously, through her husband's achievement. When the wives were asked: ''Do you or do you not agree that your own fulfillment in life comes through your husband and his work?'' only 15 percent marked ''Disagree.'' The churches share this acceptance. The dozens of books for and about clergy wives provide a clear indication of the importance of the two-person career for the churches. While a few of the more recent publications call for an end to stereotyping and greater latitude in interpreting the role of minister's wife, most are guides to deportment that take

submitted by DeW. Eakes

for granted the wife's contributions to her husband's career.

Even the most sociological study, William Douglas's **Ministers Wives**, published in 1965, shares this ''churchly'' orientation to the two-person career. While admitting that the wife is often expected to be an unpaid church worker; that she must live her family life in a goldfish bowl and share her husband with the parishioners; that her own interests and activities must, at the least, be compatible with her husband's occupation—nonetheless, those who hold this orientation never question the primacy of his career or the necessity of the wife's involvement.

Ministers Wives illustrates the churchly orientation perfectly. Douglas classified 4,777 clergy wives in relation to their husbands' ministries. He found 20 percent to be ''teamworkers,'' 64 percent to be ''background supporters,'' and 15 percent to be ''detached''—this last group describing themselves as Christian laywomen rather than church workers. However, a minority of the ''detached,'' 4 percent of the total sample, were in a state he called ''rebellious withdrawal.''

It is here that Douglas's churchly orientation becomes apparent, for he regards these uncommitted wives exactly as denominational leaders would: their nonconformity is both a threat and a challenge. Believing that such a wife ''can be helped to move out of rebellious withdrawal into a fulfilling involvement in her husband's ministry.'' Douglas suggests that she be reprogrammed or resocialized into adjustment. In essence, the wife's failure to accept the two-person career is viewed as pathology requiring therapy, a logical corollary once the principle of ''Be happy in your husband's work'' has been accepted.

Given the changes that have occurred in American society and within the churches in the past decade, this view may be less common today. Nevertheless, lacking convincing evidence to the contrary, one can probably safely assume that the ministry as a two-person career is still an ideal as well as the norm

and that the churchly orientation persists.

The Ministry and the Two-Career Marriage

The survey data from the 448 wives indicated that the two-person career was still the dominant pattern, but they also suggested that a new pattern of work and family relationships was emerging: the marriage between professionals in which each partner has a separate career. Approximately 40 percent of the wives in the survey were employed outside the home, about twice the proportion Douglas found a decade earlier. Although about half of the working wives had part-time jobs, those with full-time employment were generally found in professional occupations: teaching (the most common single profession), social work, nursing. The two-career marriage is already a reality within the ministry, and all available evidence indicates that it is a growing pattern.

While some may attribute this increase in outside employment to women's liberation, low ministerial salaries, or other likely causes, some rather commonplace statistics deserve attention. First, for American married women, rate of employment outside the home rises as level of education increases; and second, ministers tend to marry highly educated women. Although the rate of employment has increased steadily for all married women in the past 25 years, the general rule seems to hold that the more education a woman possesses, the more likely she is to have a job. In 1969, for example, only 31 percent of married women (husband present) with a grade-school education were working, but 42 percent of the high-school graduates and 51 percent of those with four or more years of college had entered the labor force. Exactly the same relationship between education and jobs characterized the survey wives: 22 percent of the high-school graduates, 32 percent of those with one to three years of college, 48 percent of the college graduates, and 50 percent of those with graduate training.

If women college graduates were sprinkled as thinly throughout the population of ministers' wives as they are throughout American society—less than 10 percent of white American females 25 years of age or older have had four years of college—changing career patterns would involve few ministerial families. However, male ministers of the mainline denominations, highly educated themselves, tend to marry highly educated women. Only 15 percent of the wives in the survey stopped with a high-school education; 28 percent had attended college for one to three years; 56 percent held college degrees. Furthermore, of the college graduates, a third had at least a year of postgraduate education. Both ministers **and** their wives belong to the most highly educated segment of American society.

In short, male ministers have precisely the sort of wives who are best qualified to hold the most rewarding jobs open to women in our society. The growth of the teaching profession in the wake of the postwar baby boom and the expansion of social work and health care in the 1960s created hundreds of thousands of jobs for educated women. True, the high-status professions—medicine, law, the ministry itself—remained relatively closed to women during the '50s and '60s, but the available jobs in the other professions were rewarding enough to provide an attractive alternative to the vicarious achievement of the two-person career. Like the educated wives of other professional and business men, ministers' wives have been increasingly finding satisfaction in their own occupation rather than their husbands' careers.

And, as might be expected, the data showed that wives who worked outside the home spent less time in church-related activities. Although 49 percent of the nonemployed wives put in ten hours or more a week on activities associated with the ministry, only 29 percent of those who worked 30 or more hours a week did so. While most working wives do not abandon the two-person career, lack of time alone means that they must curtail their contributions. Of necessity, the compatibility between the two-person career and the two-career marriage is limited.

The Churches and the Two-Career Marriage

Even if the ministry were not a profession that required wifely participation, the two-career marriage would pose serious questions for ministers and their wives. Which career should have precedence? What form should career subordination take? How should family duties and responsibilities be divided? At best, these problems are not easily solved; when the husband's occupation is a two-person career, the employing institution—here the church or denomination—provides a further complication. Like other employing institutions, the churches have usually ignored the wife's occupation, by inference treating it as an auxiliary and expendable activity. For example, the effects of frequent geographical moves on the wife's career are simply not considered, although such moves are often a requirement for success in the ministry as they are in the military or corporation life. While this attitude, part of the churchly orientation to the two-person career, might have been appropriate at one time, it will no longer serve, given the growing proportion of working clergy wives. Other cultural and social changes also seemingly require the churches to examine more seriously the two-career marriage and its consequences for the ministry.

First, societal attitudes toward women who work outside the home have undergone a dramatic shift in the past decade. While educated women started entering the labor force in increasing numbers before the revival of the women's movement, undoubtedly the rhetoric of liberation has caused many women to reassess their work and family roles. In fact, for educated women, holding a job is now commonly viewed as justification for one's education and an important source of fulfillment. This new attitude is clearly exemplified by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, widow of two millionaires, who has taken a $10,000-a-year job with a publishing company.

Further, the so-called "women's occupations" have become increasingly organized during the past decade. Whether this organization has involved greater professionalization or, as some teachers' and nurses' strikes seem to indicate greater unionization, the result

Continued on Page 15.

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Someone that I heard give a public address said only the lower class of people respect the Bible and that the ignorant only believe that it is to be interpreted literally.

Answer: I have heard President Roosevelt, President Eisenhower, President Kennedy, President Ford and a dozen or more renowned persons, speak favorably of the Bible and recommend its constant use as a guide in life. When I was studying at the Free Will Baptist Seminary in Ayden, President Robert Wright, president of East Carolina College; and the man in charge at Caswell Training School in Kinston, whom I think was addressed as president of that institution, gave a week's lecture on the Bible. They not only believed it to be the divinely inspired Word of God, but appealed to us students to read it daily and allow its message to shape and control our lives.

While a student at the Moody Bible Institute, I heard some of the most renowned men of that day from England, Germany, Sweden, and other parts of the world including our beloved America give thrilling and heart-warming messages vouching for the accuracy, integrity, and authority of the Bible; thus, testifying to the fact of its worth to them personally and its ability to bring all men to God who believe and live as it gives directions.

Yes, there were then, and are in our day, those atheists, agnostics, modernists, and other unbelievers that make a lot of noise and put forth a great deal of effort in trying to influence people against God and His precious Word. But that's nothing so unusual, for the Bible tells us of unbelievers when the Bible was being written, but it does not pay them high compliments; instead it condemns them.

"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good" (Psalm 14:1); just compare this with: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36). If these two verses are correct, which I know they are, the stupidity of the one referred to in the first of these verses is appalling because the Bible says, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23); also "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron" (1 Timothy 4:1, 2).

The devil whom all unbelievers follow and pattern their lives after is a poor pay master for he can give in exchange only what he is and what is his. His through all eternity is a miserable existence under God's judgment in a place called such as "outer darkness," "where the worm never dies and the fire is never quenched"; where there will be "weeping, wailing, and gnashing of teeth." This does not sound too enticing to me. Does it to you? If not, we had better follow the path that leads to joy, peace goodness, and to God in Christ.

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8); also "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone" (Revelation 19:20); also "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, . . . And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Revelation 20:1, 2, 10), also "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Revelation 20:14, 15).

Halley's Bible Handbook lists some renowned men's sayings on the Bible as follows:

Abraham Lincoln: "I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Saviour of the world is communicated to us through this book."

W. E. Gladstone: "I have known ninety-five of the world's great men in my time, and of these eighty-seven were followers of the Bible." "The Bible is stamped with a Specialty of Origin and an immeasurable distance separates it from all competitors."

George Washington: "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

Napoleon: "The Bible is no mere book, but a Living Creature, with a power that conquers all that oppose it."

Queen Victoria: "That book accounts for the supremacy of England."

Daniel Webster: "If there is anything in my thoughts or style to commend, the credit is due to my parents for instilling in me an early love of the Scriptures." "If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and to prosper; but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity."

John Ruskin: "Whatever merit there is in anything that I have written is

simply due to the fact that when I was a child my mother daily read me a part of the Bible and daily made me learn a part of it by heart.''

Charles A. Dana: ''The grand old Book still stands; and this old earth, the more its leaves are turned and pondered, the more it will sustain and illustrate the pages of the Sacred Word.''

Thomas Huxley: ''The Bible has been the Magna Charta of the poor and oppressed. The human race is not in a position to dispense with it.''

W. H. Seward: ''The whole hope of human progress is suspended on the ever growing influence of the Bible.''

Patrick Henry: ''The Bible is worth all other books which have ever been printed.''

U. S. Grant: ''The Bible is the sheet-anchor of our liberties.''

Horace Greeley: ''It is impossible to enslave mentally or socially a Bible-reading people. The principles of the Bible are the ground-work of human freedom.''

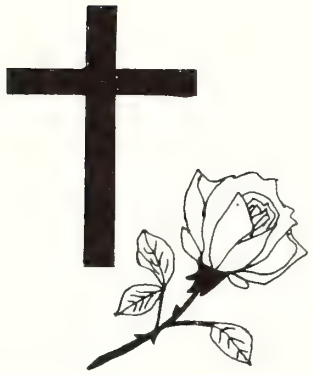
Andrew Jackson: ''That book, sir, is the rock on which our republic rests.''

Robert E. Lee: ''In all my perplexities and distresses, the Bible has never failed to give me light and strength.''

Lord Tennyson: ''Bible reading is an education in itself.''

John Quincy Adams: ''So great is my veneration for the Bible that the earlier my children begin to read it the more confident will be my hope that they will prove useful citizens of their country and respectable members of society.'' ''I have for many years made it a practice to read through the Bible once every year.''

Charles Dickens: ''The New Testament is the very best book that ever was or ever will be known in the world.''



Special Moments

Dear Maggie,

Just a few moments we take for granted.

I praise God for all the wonderful things that are so precious to life. For instance did you **really** see the beautiful fall colors this year? Or, do you remember a certain sunrise or sunset? Have you said ''Hello'' to that lonely person who no one has visited lately? What about the lady or man who has recently lost a very dear one? What about the miracle of the birth of a baby?

When did you last just tell someone that you love him or her?

TALENT. There is not a single person who can't do something well.

Share with me the cold chills and goose bumps I had the day that through adoption a son was placed in my arms. It was just another of God's special moments with me.

Share with me the Sunday morning that it was raining so terribly hard and we all ran out and got into the car. As we were backing out of the driveway, the comment was made, ''I wonder if God will come on a day like this.'' My seventeen-year-old daughter answered, 'Mommy, when God comes, if it's raining or the sun's shining, I'm ready.''

Yes, that was one of God's special moments with me.

Finally, let me share with you one special moment with God that I have so selfishly kept private for a number of years.

During a particular trying time in my life I was in my bedroom on my knees praying. After a considerable length of time praying, I remember asking, ''God, do you hear me?'' A great rush of wind sounded as if it were going to blow in the windows. I was so startled I got up and looked outside. Not a leaf on the trees outside was moving. As I kneeled again, I said, ''Thank you, for 'Yes.' ''

Name Withheld
Farmville, N. C.

Editorial . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

And now, especially in May, Children's Home Month, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home is cognizant of the importance of child care in all its facets; and through its many programs, it invests in the future of the world by investing in the lives of children. It is our duty to do as much as we can to assist the Home in reaching its goals. Children are where the Home and we deposit our *most precious treasures!*

NEWS & NOTES

Heaven Bound to Be at St. Mary's Church, Kenly



Heaven Bound

Heaven Bound, a gospel singing group, will appear at St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, on May 21 at 7 p. m. in connection with youth night services.

Robert's Grove Young People at Work

The YFA of Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, sponsored a ''Walk-a-thon'' for Cragmont, Sunday afternoon, April 9. They planned a twenty-mile walk. Fifteen started the walk and six completed it. They raised $400 for Cragmont. Congratulations are due their directors, Miss Debra Tew and Mrs. Brenda Tyndall.

On Tuesday night, April 18, the AFC sponsored a ''Mother-Daughter, Father-Son Banquet'' in the fellowship hall of the church. The hall and the tables were beautifully decorated.

After dinner, a very interesting program was given by the AFCs. Then, Mr. E. V. Spell introduced Mr. Charlie McCullers of Raleigh, the speaker for the evening.

It was a very enjoyable evening. Thanks go again to the directors: Mrs. Carolyn Tew, Mrs. Frankie Wrench, and Mrs. Susan Faircloth for a job well done.

People's Chapel Church Has Revival

A successful revival was observed recently at the People's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Elm City. The Rev. Rudy Owens from Wilson served as guest evangelist for what has been described as one of the best revivals ever. The Rev. Delmas Brown is pastor of the church.

Morality Film to Be Shown At Elm Grove Church

A dramatic film, **Like a Might Army,** the down-to-earth true story of a man in tune with his times, will be shown at Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Ayden, May 24, at 8 p. m.

The social revolution among young people today is frightening in many of its aspects. Even the church is being seriously questioned as to its existence and activity. Instead of responding with bewilderment and fear, a handful of people in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, led by their dynamic young minister, the Rev. James Kennedy, committed themselves to the principle of providing life-changing answers for the people of their community.

In nine short years, the Coral Ridge church has become one of the fastest growing congregations in the world, growing from 17 to more than 2,000 members and requiring three Sunday morning services to handle the crowds.

This exciting true story has been made into the film, **Like a Mighty Army**, by Gospel Films, Inc. It is an inspirational film and should prove useful for Christians who want to serve actively in their church.

The Rev. Gary M. Bailey, pastor of Elm Grove, and the entire church invite the public to attend this showing.

Homecoming and Memorial Day Rains Cross Roads Church

The Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Kenly, will observe its annual homecoming and memorial day services on Sunday, May 21. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a. m., followed with the message by the pastor, the Rev. Danny Blackman, at the eleven o'clock worship hour. A picnic lunch will be served on the church grounds at noon. A singspiration will be held in the afternoon.

The pastor and the church membership invite all friends, relatives, and former members to be with them on this day.

The Little Folks Help at Cathedral Church



Kim Foster and Daren Robinson

The Cathedral Free Will Baptist Church in Durham, is in a building program. The pastor is the Rev. M. E. Cox and they are building a new church at Wake Forest Road and Hillview Drive. No one wanted to be left out so the little folks had a project of their own that was fun and fund raising. Easter Bunny King and Easter Bunny Quuen, Who would it be? There were about 15 contestants and their jars were filled with coins and most had some bills too. They ''hopped'' the building fund up $350. Kim Foster, 7 years old, became queen and Daren Robinson, 5 years old, became king. Of course, all of our ''little ones'' are Kings and Queens. These two worked a little harder.

PASTORS' CONFERENCE

for
Eastern Conference Ministers
at
Camp Vandemere

MAY 26, 27

Friday 5:00 thru Saturday 3:00

SPONSORED BY

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all Ministers, especially Eastern Conference, welcome

Please notify

Ralph Sumner
Oriental, N. C.

if you plan to attend

Study, Worship, Fellowship

Subject: Sharing the work of the sub-committee for the Revision of the Statement of Faith and Discipline

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For May 28

FAITH UNDER FIRE

Lesson Text: Acts 12:1-11
Memory Verse: Acts 12:24

I. INTRODUCTION

Any person seeking personal ease, safety, and popularity is not looking for genuine Christianity, which promises none of these. Genuine Christianity demands diligent application of spiritual truths to life and business; it requires faithfulness, which may result in threats or even bodily abuse; and it calls for conviction to moral and spiritual principles, even when the masses would turn from these principles. Yes, if you seek the easy life, forget Jesus Christ.

Real Christianity will take you inescapably where the action is. If you have the genuine article, you can't help being completely honest—that's tough; you will be vitally concerned about others' well-being, both spiritual and physical—that's tougher; and you must be drawn into direct conflict with sin, both your own and others'—and that's toughest of all.

Today we see how total commitment to Christ led two men into trouble. They could not have avoided it without compromising their consciences. But then, they weren't seeking personal ease, safety, or popularity.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. After Pentecost, the infant church in Jerusalem, Antioch, and elsewhere began to grow rapidly. Peter's sermon at Pentecost added "about three thousand souls" to the church (see Acts 2:41). As the church at Jerusalem continued "in the apostles' doctrine" (see Acts 2:42) and in Christian fellowship, ". . . the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47).

B. But as the church grew, so did persecutions. Satan was determined to undermine what the Holy Spirit had begun. The faith of the early Christians was under fire—the fire of persecution, which showed no signs of abating.

C. The first fire came with the healing of the lame man (Acts 3 and 4). The second persecution came when the apostles were arrested and placed in prison (Acts 5:17-28). The third came with the stoning of Stephen (Acts 6:8-15). And the fourth arose under Saul, the persecutor (Acts 8 and 9).

D. Now the fifth fire of persecution began to burn as the enemies of the church saw that their former efforts to stamp out the Christian way had failed. The fifth persecution, involving the arrest of Peter, is taken up in today's lesson.

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In our last few lessons, we have seen how the church, which was composed of Jewish Christians, was led to open the door of the gospel to the Gentiles. A great wave of persecution followed. Satan always makes a great attack soon after an important decision. Christ's temptation came soon after his baptism. When you decide to do right, you may be sure that Satan will attack as soon as possible thereafter.

B. Herod had James killed and, because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he took Peter and threw him in prison, intending to kill him at the right moment. Christians were suffering and even dying because an unprincipled politican thought it was best for him to please the most people. Does this ever happen today? Of course it does. Politicians in our day have favored many things that were not right but which were popular. Liquor by the drink is an example.

C. Two very important words in today's lesson are, **but prayer**. One of the church leaders, James, had already been executed. Now the Apostle Peter had been thrown into prison. Who would be next? What were they going to do without these important leaders? It was truly a dark time in the history of the church, but then they began to pray, and they continued to pray. Prayer seems to have made the difference. Has there ever been a time in your life when prayer made the difference?

D. There was an element of surprise in Peter's deliverance. God's people are always surprised at the way God works. We know Him; we believe in Him; we trust Him; but when He answers prayer, there is always an element of surprise. This is because there is always an element that we cannot understand in the way God answers prayer.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Pray for Others—Some years ago, a man came to a great preacher, known for his outstanding ability as a counselor. The man confessed that he was sour on life and hated almost everyone he knew. He wanted to know what to do, and the pastor suggested an easy cure. He asked the man to name the competitor he hated the most. The man finally selected one name. "Now," said the pastor, "I want you to pray for that man every day. Pray for his welfare and pray that God will bless him. Pray that his business will greatly increase."

The man rejected the idea and left, angry at the pastor. However, several weeks later he returned to talk with the pastor. He entered with a radiant face.

"What has happened to you?" asked the pastor.

The man replied, "I left you weeks ago as mad as I could be. I thought it was unreasonable to pray as you asked me. But I thought it over, and I knew I must try your prescription. I began to pray for the man I hated. I called him and told him I was praying for him daily. I don't know what it has done for him, but it has made a new man out of me."—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**



SOLOMON, THE WISE KING

DAVID was a good king. It is true that he made mistakes. Some of the mistakes were very bad. He wanted to build a temple for God; but because of these mistakes or sins, God would not allow him to do this. He promised him that his son, who would be the next king, would be able to build the temple.

Just before David died, God told him to have his son, Solomon, anointed as the next king of Israel.

When Solomon became king, God came to him in a dream and said, "Now that you are king, ask for anything that you want me to give you."

Solomon answered, "You have been good to my father, David, as he was righteous and upright. Now that you have made me king in his place, I am as a little child. I do not know what to do. I am to rule over your people who are so numerous that they cannot be counted. Give me understanding in my heart to be able to judge your people so that I may know good from bad."

God was so pleased that Solomon had asked wisdom instead of riches, long life or victory over his enemies, that He said, "Because you have not asked for riches, a long life, or honor among men, but have asked wisdom instead, I will give these to you also. I will give you a wise heart and an understanding one. You will be wiser than any man has ever been, and there shall never be another as wise as you. If you walk in my ways and keep my laws and commandments as your father did, you will live long."

Solomon was indeed a wise king. To problems that there seemed to be no answer, he found an answer. There were many problems to be solved for his people. One of these will show how very wise he was.

There were two women living in the same house who had babies of the same age. One day, they came to the king and one of them said, "During the night her baby died. While I was asleep she removed my baby and replaced it with her dead one. Now she claims that the living one is hers. It is mine."

"The other woman cried out, "No! She is not telling the truth. This is my baby!"

The king could not tell which one was telling the truth. Both of the babies had looked alike. Therefore, he decided on a plan that would find out for him.

"Servants, bring to me a sword." It was brought to him and he said, "Let us cut this living baby into two pieces and give each of them a half."

One of the women was agreeable, but the other one was the real mother and she would rather have let the other woman have her child than see it killed. She called out, "Please! Do not kill it. Give it to her if you must, but do not kill it."

Solomon look at her and said, "This is the true mother. Give the baby to her." He knew that no real mother would be able to stand by and see her baby killed over such an argument.

The people of the land heard of this and said, "Truly Solomon is a wise and great king."

Solomon was allowed by the Lord to build the temple. It was a great and beautiful temple; he worked seven years in building it.

The news of the great king spread far and wide over the whole world. Many people came to see this wise man for themselves. Among these that came was the Queen of Sheba. She came to ask him many questions and see just how wise he was.

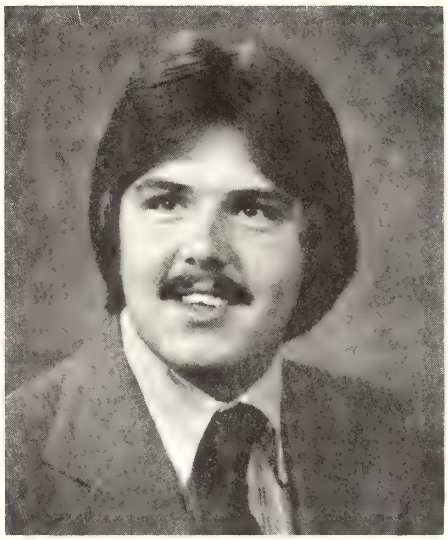
When she had questioned him at great length, she declared that he was, indeed, the greatest and wisest man on the earth. She brought him many gifts.

Not only was Solomon the wisest king on the earth; he was becoming the richest. God had promised him wealth, and he was becoming very wealthy.

When Solomon was getting old, he strayed away from God. He had married many women from foreign countries, and each of them had a different god. They wanted Solomon to build places for them to worship their gods. The Lord had forbidden anyone from worshiping another God. They could only worship Him. But Solomon had one weakness. It was the love of women. He did as they had wished. God was displeased with him and declared that the kingdom would not stay in the family of Solomon. He would allow the son of Solomon to reign for a time; then He would give the kingdom to someone else.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

MOC

STUDENT GOVERNMENT PRESIDENT SURVEYS YEAR



Lynwood Stewart

By Lynwood Stewart
Mount Olive College
Class of 1978

As this year comes to a close at Mount Olive College, I find that my two years here have been the most rewarding years of my life. Even though Mount Olive is a small college, its potential for giving students a chance is extremely high. I have served in my capacities while attending Mount Olive, but serving as president of the student government has been a leap upward in my experience of working with other people. As president I had many tasks and was looked upon not only as a student, but also as president of the student body.

When I came to Mount Olive I set up goals. One of these goals was to become Student Government Association President. I have reached not only this goal but many others also. In working with problems and everyday situations, I find that life is a constant struggle upward. With friends, faculty, and administration at Mount Olive that give students the love and guidance they do, students will never have trouble reaching their goals.

Never have I been turned down when I needed a shoulder to lean on or just a friend to talk to. These people care for me and others as individuals.

There are many people at Mount Olive that deserve a great deal of thanks, but there is one man that has always put a smile on my face and showed a particular interest in my future plans and interests. My special thanks go to Dr. Michael Pelt. He is one of the finest men that I have ever had the chance to meet. He is a definite asset to our College and as I look back on my days at Mount Olive in the years to come, I will always remember how special and dedicated he is to his job, family, and friends.

I am very thankful for having the opportunity of serving as Student Government Association President. As a student body we have made many improvements and strengthened many of our weaknesses. We have done this as a body working together because we care what happens to our College. I would like to give thanks to my fellow students for allowing me to serve.

Now that graduation is here for the Class of 1978, we would like to say thank you Mount Olive College for being the "College that Cares."

NEW CREATIONS IN GEORGIA



The New Creations of Mount Olive College include: seated, left to right, Susan Rice of Spring Hope; Debbie Housend of Whiteville; Patricia Best of Selma; Kay Radford of Kenly; and Dee Hays of Parkersburg. Standing, left to right, Karen Bowen of Goldsboro; Craig Wells of Richlands; Pat Wood of Ormondsville; Jeff Daughtry of Smithfield; Caroline Castelloe, director; Phillip Boykin of Wilson; Donnie Rose of Pinetops; and Lynn Richardson of New Bern

The New Creations of Mount Olive College departed Saturday, May 13, for a week of gospel singing in Free Will Baptist churches in Georgia. Under the direction of Miss Caroline Castelloe, Mount Olive College Math Professor, the student singing group will visit Zion, Jakin, Bethlehem, and Colquitt Free Will Baptist Churches. Following the singing tour, the group will visit Disney World in Florida before returning to Mount Olive on Saturday, May 20.

PARSONAGE LIFE:

(Continued from Page 7)

is the same: both routes enhance worker consciousness and worker solidarity. The working wife with strong organizational ties is not apt to regard her job as trivial or expendable or always to be subordinated to her husband's career.

And finally, the drying up of the job market, particularly in teaching and social work, means that ready availability of jobs can no longer be taken for granted. In many families, the geographical move demanded by the husband's career may mean not only a substantial drop in income but the permanent termination of the wife's career. All of these changes indicate the need for a reappraisal of the wife's work role—not only by the wife and husband, but also by the churches and other employing institutions which utilize the two-person career.

One particular form of the two-career marriage may be destined to play an important part in the churches: the marriage between fully qualified ministers. Until recently women who experienced a religious call to serve found it easier to marry a minister than become one. Today, with women constituting up to 40 percent of seminary classes, an increase in husband-and-wife professional partnerships seems inevitable.

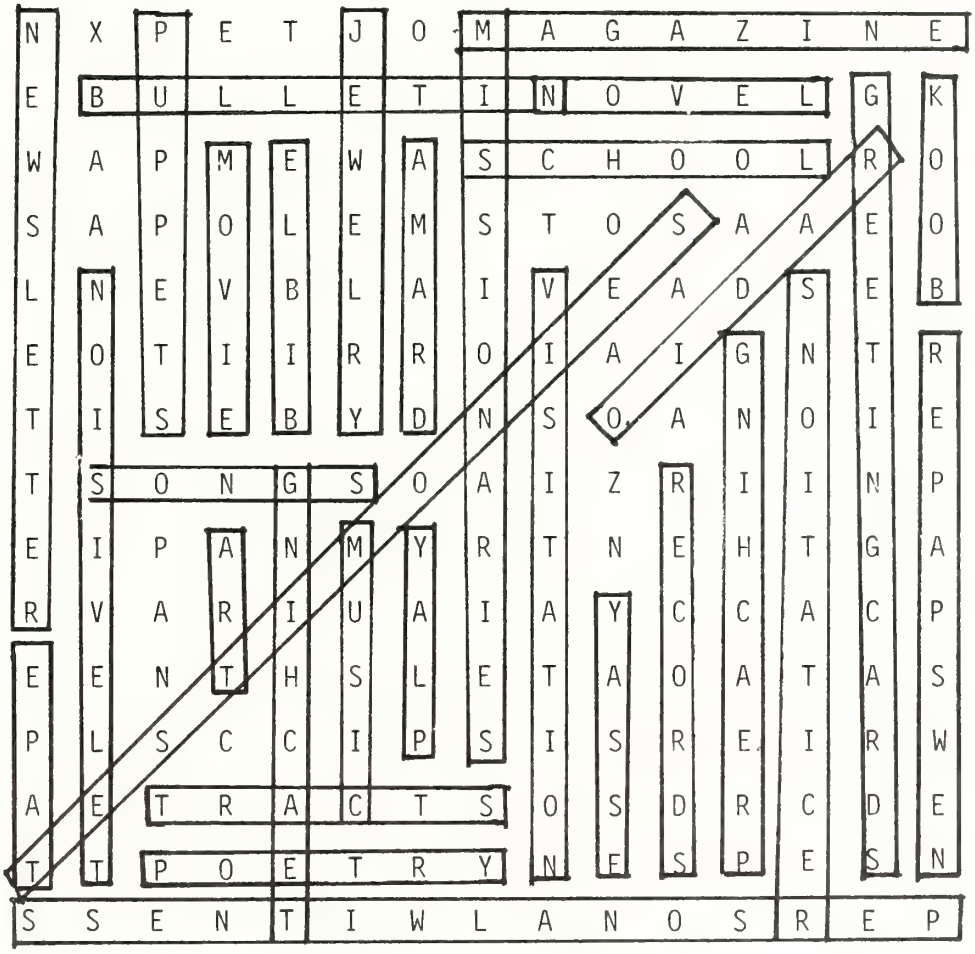
Obviously, the two-person career will not disappear overnight; many women will continue to find participation in their husbands' ministries rewarding, either throughout married life or when children are small. Nor will the two-career marriage come to dominate in the immediate future. Nevertheless, if attractive employment continues to be available for educated women, and if ministers continue to marry their educational peers, it is unlikely that the trend will be reversed. Churches as employing institutions can no longer count on getting two for the price of one.

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MEANS OF MINISTRY

by Nancy Matthews

(Answers to Last Week's Puzzle)



NOTICE TO WESTERN CONFERENCE CHURCHES:

Our Statement of Faith and Discipline requires that you call a pastor from the list (found in the yearbook) of duly ordained Original Free Will Baptist Ministers as does the Constitution of the Western Conference. Clear a minister with your Conference Board of Ordination prior to hiring him as your pastor.

Western Conference Board of Ordination
Clyde Cox, Chairman
De W. Eakes, Clerk

Coming Events . . .

May 23—Executive Board Meeting of State Convention, Free Will Baptist Press, 10 A. M.

Churches and Ministers Available

Grimsley Original Free Will Baptist Church, between Maury and Snow Hill, is in need of a full-time pastor. Anyone interested should contact: Ray Jones, Route 1, Box 346, Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580; or by phoning 747-2088 (day) or 747-3220 (night).

Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Macclesfield, is seeking a pastor for full-time services beginning first Sunday in July. Anyone interested please contact by writing: R. A. Hamilton, Route 1, Box 281A, Fountain, North Carolina 27829 or call 827-4547 after 7 p. m.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

MAY
is
CHILDREN'S HOME
MONTH!



MAY 20
is
FOUNDERS' DAY

Services Begin at 10:30 A. M.
Bring a Picnic Basket for Lunch.

Beverages Furnished.
Open House in the Afternoon.

BE SURE TO ATTEND!

FV57W

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Wednesday, May 24, 1978
Ayden, North Carolina

Church of the Month

WHITE OAK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Bladenboro, North Carolina



Editorial . . .

GODLY STUBBORNNESS: A VIRTUE

Charles Naret-Nathan gave his appraisal of stubbornness, which is particularly significant in that the evaluation has a twist at the end. Quoth he, "You are stubborn and I am going to spank you, but don't take the spanking too seriously; *stubbornness may be one of man's most valuable assets.* "How so?" we wonder.

The word, stubborn, usually connotes negatively; and those who manifest this personality trait are frequently categorized as undesirable, impossible, *bullheaded* persons. Other synonymns for stubborn include *ornery, obstinate, stiff-necked, pigheaded,* and perhaps the unfamiliar *pertinacious.* To have any of these terms ascribed to one is not generally considered an honor—but wait!

In Christian circles, when one "sets his jaw" and determines, "Just like a tree planted by the waters, I shall not be moved," he exhibits a *favorable* rather than an *unfavorable trait.* It is then that one can see stubbornness in a different light.

That stubbornness which proceeds from foolish bullheadedness or a desire to be immovable for the sake of proving one's strength only, is really futile. It profits no one and produces nothing—except maybe a headache and unpopularity. On the other hand, when situations are sharply and critically analyzed to the point where *conviction* dictates the stubbornness, then stubbornness becomes *more* than bullheadedness. It becomes a *heart attitude,* and, further, *moral steadfastness.*

"Be steadfast; stick to your guns!" The advice has been given and often followed. Persistence, then, may be a virtue—if tempered properly. The stubborn will of man, when resulting from godly living, is not to be viewed adversely. It is more to be *praised* than *censured.* And, if it were *not* for those veteran bulwarks of faith, today's immorality would flow at even higher tide.

Men of conscience and conviction must express themselves. They must exhibit that stick-to-itiveness which distinguishes them from their wishy-washy counterparts. Rigidness of manner cannot be put in the same bracket with conviction, but the *ability to stand for the right must be coupled with a certain sterness to prove effective.* And, for *anyone* to be worth very much, he must be a person of *conviction.*

Backing down at opposition, however forceful or strong that opposition may be, can only be considered a sign of insecurity or weakness. That is not to suggest that admitting to a wrong is undesirable; but to turn an about face when one *knows* he is *right* could very well cause others to question his sincerity of purpose. Christ *never* compromised; and neither should those of us who claim His name make concessions or relinquish the principles we know to be right! God forgive us if we do.

The Scriptures teach us to be steadfast, immovable, trusting the things of God. Second Timothy 4:2-5 instructs us without error: *Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.*

Then, Verse 7 offers this declaration: *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.*

I have kept the faith! Let this affirmation be our *defense,* should we need any. Even if we are called stubborn, *let us persist to do the Lord's will.* And woe be unto those who would deter us from doing good. God will deal with them!

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HISTORY OF WHITE OAK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Bladenboro, North Carolina

THE White Oak Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro, North Carolina, was organized in 1912. The church is not as old as some of our neighboring churches, but it was founded upon God. Good Christian Free Will Baptist people saw the need for a church in Bladenboro, so they began to work. Some were already members of the Oak Grove church, outside of town, but they realized the need for a church which would be nearer for them. At that time, Oak Grove was the nearest Free Will Baptist church in this area.

The first place of worship was an old schoolhouse at the cotton mill village. The church body was organized there with twenty-one members. This building served as the church for about one year. Meanwhile, these concerned Christian people were praying and trusting in God for the church they envisioned for the future. Many were making contributions of bricks, lumber, nails, and other items needed for building. The land was given by Mr. Alias Edwards, and the construction began.

A few months later, there was a small wooden structure, and Bladenboro had a Free Will Baptist church. Of course, there were no modern conveniences as we have today, but the people met each week and worshiped God. The first pastor was the Rev. M. S. Todd. He led his people in the way God led him.

The congregation grew, and the people saw the need of more space. They needed more room, not only in the sanctuary, but also for classrooms, bathrooms, and a nursery. In the year 1946, our present church was built directly in front of the old church. It is nearer the street, makes an attractive building for God, and is a credit to our community. White Oak has a seating capacity of two hundred fifty, eight Sunday school classrooms, two bathrooms, and a nursery.

In 1970, the men of the church organized a brotherhood and immediately recognized the need of a fellowship hall both as a meeting place which could also be used by the respective auxiliaries of the church for socials. So they made plans for the building and performed almost all of the construction without outside help. And, as always, God supplied the needs and the fellowship hall was completed. This building is located behind the church and is now used as an additional classroom for Sunday school. Plans are to enlarge the fellowship hall in the near future.

Throughout these years, the pastors had been living in rented houses in the community. In 1971, after praying and seeking the will of God, the church was able to purchase a three-bedroom home for our future pastors. It is situated on a large lot which allows our pastor to have a vegetable garden. It is approximately two miles from the church.

In 1976 the church was completely refurnished and remodeled inside. Again, the men of the church donated their time and talents to do the work. We, as members of White Oak, are proud of our church and the progress which has been made under the leadership of God.

There are several auxiliaries in the church which are working not only in our immediate community but also for the programs of the state Free Will Baptists. We have a strong AFC and YFA for the young people. The Brotherhood, under the direction of Mr. Steve Hargrove, president, is an asset to the church as is the ladies auxiliary, with Mrs. Vivian Hester as president. We are also very proud of our choir which provides music for each service. Our musicians, Mrs. Sue Brown, organist; Mrs. Huldah Kinlaw, pianist; Mrs. Mary Belle Pait, assistant; and music director, Mr. Jerry Brown, work together to provide an outstanding musical program.

The deacons are always ready to work in our church and help the pastor in any way possible. The board is composed of five members: Mr. Robert Adams, chairman; Mr. Charleston Smith, Mr. David Hester, Mr. Jimmy McKnight, and Mr. Jerry Brown.

White Oak believes wholeheartedly in and practices the Free Will Baptist doctrine.

Our Sunday school begins at ten o'clock, with the worship service following at eleven. On Sunday night, our league convenes at 6:30 and preaching follows at 7:30. We have good attendance at our mid-week prayer meeting, which begins at 7:30 on Wednesday nights.

God has richly blessed White Oak through the years and we are depending on his guidance in the days to come.

Following is a list of our former pastors:

The Rev. Sylvester Todd
The Rev. R. W. Baker
The Rev. John W. Moore
The Rev. J. C. Griffin
The Rev. Miller H. Millette
The Rev. W. E. Anderson
The Rev. W. B. Everette
The Rev. Minant Goodwin
The Rev. Walter L. Jernigan
The Rev. Carey Cheshire
The Rev. Jackie Godwin
The Rev. Frank Brinson
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The Rev. Paul Brown
The Rev. Loy E. Ballard
The Rev. Herman Wooten
The Rev. Paul Warner Jr.
The Rev. M. L. Johnson
The Rev. Lewis Sprouse
The Rev. Melvin Moore
The Rev. Bruce Goodwin
The Rev. Ransom McAbee

WESTSIDE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH OCCUPIES NEW BUILDING



Westside Church

The members of Westside Free Will Baptist Church will celebrate the official opening of the first new building on the three-acre plot of land at 2013 Lynn Drive, Kinston, North Carolina, Sunday, May 28, 1978 at 11 a. m. The pastor, the Rev. Clifton Rice, and the membership extend a cordial invitation to the public to join in fellowship with them for the services of the day and a dutch fellowship lunch at the K and W Cafeteria at noon.

Sunday school will begin at 9:45 a. m. followed by a special worship service at eleven and evening worship at 7:30. Mr. Rice will deliver both the morning and evening messages.

May 28 will not only be the official opening day of the new church, but will also be the beginning of the first revival in the church since it was organized May 3, 1977, by the Eastern Conference Executive Committee. Mr. Rice will be the evangelist for the week-long revival which will climax, Friday night, June 2. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening.

On Sunday, March 6, 1977, twenty-nine people gathered in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Everett, 2813 Murray Hill Road, for the purpose of beginning a new Free Will Baptist church, to be built in West Kinston, to be affiliated with the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptist Conference. Sunday school, Sunday morning, and Sunday evening worship service, and Wednesday night prayer and Bible study were held in the Everett home through May 3, 1978 (the anniversary date).

It was the dream of this small group that gathered together at that first service that they would be worshiping in a beautiful new building within a year. That dream started becoming a reality in November, 1977, when the ground was broken for the first building, which is a multi-purpose building. The spacious brick building, built by Linwood Taylor, Inc., of Kinston, consists of a large kitchen and dining hall combination, five Sunday school classrooms, two large rest rooms, and a two hundred seating capacity (temporary) sanctuary. Future plans include a sanctuary, gymtorium, and expansion of the Sunday school department, and fellowship hall.

Not only has God blessed with material things, but He has also blessed spiritually, over and beyond expectations. In June, 1977, the first pastor, the Rev. Reb Lancaster, baptized five members at Eagles Nest (near Mount Olive), three of whom were new converts; one rededication; and one membership transfer from another denomination. The present pastor, the Rev. Clifton Rice, who joined the group in September, 1977, has baptized two new converts and has one new convert waiting for baptism. The church membership has grown to sixty-four.

This church is a dream come true, and it all has happened because of a group of believers who prayed, worked, obeyed, and kept the faith that "All Things Are Possible With God."

The members are confident that we will continue to accomplish great things at Westside church. They have proven to themselves, that if they let God lead them, and, if they follow His leading, great things will happen.

(Directions to the church are as follows: Take Carey Road to Riley Road, and go all the way to the end of Riley Road. The church is to the right. This is a new development; therefore, the only entrance at present is by way of Riley Road. The public is invited to worship with the membership whenever possible.)

The Revision Committee on the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet June 5, at the Press, at 10 a. m.

--Bill Futch, Secretary

Children's Home

HOME UNDER ATTACK!

That's right! The Children's Home like your home is under attack. That greedy villian known as inflation is battling away. Everything from food to fuel, to clothes to broken toes costs more these days. That's why we need you to help us make May the biggest May ever. Last year, our people gave us $22,555. We need that much and more this May. We are all counting on you. Don't let the Sundays in May go by without presenting an offering for the Children's Home.

SUMMER CAMP

Cragmont time is nearing. Many of our children are making plans to go to summer camp. We would like to encourage our churches, Sunday school classes and youth groups to send a child at the Home to camp. Full cost of camp is $63 which includes money for meals to and from camp and trips while at camp.

FARM NEWS!

We have our corn planted and most of the rest of our crops will soon be planted as well. As you know, our tobacco is leased. We have too few older boys to raise our tobacco now. Also we have approximately four acres of garden that's looking very good.

People do ODD things just to get EVEN.

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: If Jesus and His disciples were reclinging at the table which was the oriental position taken by the Orientals in that day, why do the artists who portray them at the institution of the Lord's Supper sitting around a western table?

Answer: Perhaps it would be fitting to answer this by calling attention to the fact that some of the popular modern Bibles of our day are paraphrased rather than that they are "new and more accuate translations of the Scriptures" as I have heard them referring to as being. The artists whose paintings portray the Lord and His Apostles in a sitting position at the institution of the Lord's Supper may have thought they could more appropriately get their message over to us who are accustomed to sitting at the table for our meals or it might be that in some cases the particular artist portraying the Lord and His disciples in the institution of the Lord's Supper made their painting according to the vision they gained in reading of the accounts given in the Gospels without stopping to think of the position they were actually in.

Here is how George H. Sandison answers a similar question regarding the artist portrayal of the institution of the Lord's Supper in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered:**

"Artistic conceptions have certainly varied greatly in the treatment of this subject. Some painters have apparently discarded Oriental forms and customs, in order to produce a picture that would be less strange, yet no less impressive in the eyes of their own countrymen. A few, like Tissot, have adhered closely to the Eastern standards. Isalian painters have given us the Last Supper as a clasic Italian scene, and German, Dutch and English artists have each given their own national interpretation of the subject. They painted for their own time and their own people, and unless they had had the advantage of travel and study in the Orient they could not have done otherwise. Strict accuracy was apparently held as of less importance than a noble and beautiful ideal."

IN MEMORIAM
NORMAN V. STANLEY

It is with sorrow in our hearts that we write these words in memory of Norman V. Stanley, who passed away July 5, 1977. He was 58 years old.

Funeral services were held on July 6, at the Wilkerson Funeral Chapel in Greenville, by the Rev. W. H. Willis, his pastor, and the Rev. Willis Wilson. Burial followed in the Ayden cemetery.

Surviving him are his wife, Mrs. Margie Cox Stanley; a son, Van Stanley of Greenville; and three sisters, Mrs. Lela McLawhorn of Cox's Mill, Mrs. V. T. Corey of Winterville, and Mrs. Fred McGlohon of Greenville, and a brother, Jasper Stanley of Greenville.

Norman's first love was God and his church, Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Grimesland, North Carolina.

He served as a deacon and treasurer of the Sunday school for a long time, so much can be said of him.

He was a faithful Christian who attended his church regularly and a very special man to us here, and was always devoted to his wife and son.

He had love for his fellowman and regarded every man as his friend, and he did whatever he could for everyone and was always busy for his Lord. He was always helping those in need and loving people.

It was a joy and a privilege to labor in God's church with him and we are grateful for that privilege. He was so kind and compassionate to everyone.

On the first Sunday in April of this year his family, loved ones, and friends dedicated a beautiful steeple to the church in his memory for his love of God, his sincerity, the faith he had in our Lord Jesus Christ. It was with love that each of us helped erect this part of the building for God so the people can rejoice in the Lord forever with good memories.

Yes, we do miss him, but we bow in humble submission to the Father's will and thank Him for Norman's life of the many years of service of this saintly brother.

May we, who are left to mourn his passing, be led by that great light that guided his pathway day and night until the time when we too hear the Master's call. As He said to him, may He also say to us, "It is finished"; thou hast been "a faithful steward. I have prepared for thee a mansion: enter thou into the joys of the Lord." (See Matthew 25:21.)

Precious memories, indeed are ours of the one we have missed so much.
Memories can never be dimmed for they lie deep in the hearts of those who loved him dearly.
Loving memories, we will keep until we meet him face to face.
He had no time for farewells or good-by to home,
We'll wait for our call to death valley's gate which will open and a gentle voice will say, "Come."
And meet all who've been as good as you.

Respectfully submitted,
Norvella M. Stokes
Pleasant Hill Church
Route 1
Grimesland, North Carolina



SUNDAY, MAY 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 37:3

TWO THINGS NOT TO WORRY ABOUT

There are two things, at least, about which we should never worry. First, the things we can't help. If we can't help them, worrying is certainly most foolish and useless. Secondly, the things we can help. If we can help them, let us set about it, and not weaken our powers by worry. Weed your garden. Pluck up the smallest roots of worry. Watch for their first appearance above the ground and pluck them while they are small. Don't let them get a start. They will crowd out all the beautiful things that ought to grow in our hearts unless we do.

PRAYER THOUGHT

It is better to turn your heart to God when you are young than when you are old, but Jesus will accept you any time.

MONDAY, MAY 29

Scripture Reading—Romans 3:19

UNSAVORY CHRISTIANS

My sister invited me to a turkey dinner. She had raised the turkeys on her orchard farm. I sat and carved, and the plates were filled. We all took the first mouthful of turkey, then we looked at one another. We could not keep it in our mouths: It tasted like the smell of decayed shrimps. My brother-in-law used the leavings from the shrimp market on the beach for ground fertilizer, and the turkeys had eaten some of it. We were going to eat turkey, but the shrimp leavings had gone all through the turkey. There it was, lovely looking turkey, but useless. You may be a Christian and feed on the theaters, but oh, how will your life taste to others? Pity the young person who tries to follow Jesus, and feeds on the stage.

PRAYER THOUGHT

You can't follow Jesus and follow the world. You need to love Jesus with all your heart.

TUESDAY, MAY 30

Scripture Reading—John 17:4

HER PARTNERSHIP

An unusual woman was being interviewed by a reporter. Although a widow for years, she had reared six children of her own and twelve adopted children. In spite of her busy and useful life she was noted for her poise and charm. The reporter asked how she had managed. "You see, I'm in partnership." "What kind of partnership?" She replied, "One day, a long time ago, I said, 'Lord, I'll do the work, and You do the worrying,' and I haven't had a worry since!" Work and trust in God! That's a wonderful partnership. The will to work is priceless. We should beware of our modern schemes to live without honest toil. Everyday duties need never to be a burden, however, when we let God carry part of the load. When we let Him do the worrying, we release ourselves from fear and fussiness. When we take Him into partnership, we reinforce our weak efforts by His divine power. No one need feel sorry for himself with the Lord on his side.

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we are down and out, we should always remember that God is on our side. He cares for you.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Scripture Reading—Romans 4:20

MYSTERY DOESN'T BOTHER IN THE DINING ROOM

Did you ever raise a radish? You put a small black seed into the black soil, and in a little while you return to the garden and find the full grown radish. The top is green, the body white and almost transparent, and the skin a delicate red or pink. What mysterious power reaches out and gathers from the ground the particles which give it form and size and flavor? Whose is the invisible brush that transfers to the root, growing in darkness, the hues of the summer sunset? If we were to refuse to eat anything until we could understand the mystery of its creation we would die of starvation—but mystery, it seems, never bothers us in the dining room; it is only in the church that it causes us to hestitate.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should never worry about the mysteries of life, because God will take care of them.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 12:2

TRUST AND BE NOT AFRAID

"Man," said one Christian Scotsman to another, "I got a wonderful text in my reading lesson to-day." "Oh," said his friend, "let me hear it." "Well," responded the other enthusiastically, "the text is Psalm 56:3, and it says, 'What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee.' " "Very good," agreed his friend, smiling, "but I got a better text in my reading lesson, for in Isaiah 12:2, I read, 'I will trust, and not be afraid.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should always trust in the Lord, because He loves His children so much.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 8:3

PRINTED PAGE NEVER FLINCHES!

In scattering divine literature we liberate thistledown, laden with precious seed, which, blown by the winds of the Spirit, floats over the world. The printed page never flinches, never shows cowardice; it is never tempted to compromise; it never tires, never grows disheartened; it travels cheaply, and requires no hired hall; it works while we sleep; it never loses its temper;

and it works long after we are dead. The printed page is a visitor which gets inside the home, and stays there; it always catches a man in the right mood, for it speaks to him only when he is reading it; it always sticks to what it has said, and never answers back; and it is bait left permanently in the pool.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What better printed page to read today than the Bible, God' Holy Word.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 6:2

LATER THAN THEY THINK

The story is told of a man who rushed into a suburban railroad station one morning and, almost breathlessly, asked the ticket agent: "When does the 8:01 train leave?"

"At 8:01," was the answer.

"Well," the man replied, "it's 7:59 by my watch, 7:57 by the town clock, and 8:04 by the station clock. Which am I to go by?"

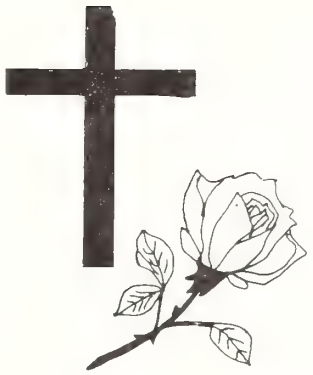
"You can go by any clock you wish," said the agent, "but you can't go by the 8:01 train, for it has already left."

God's time is moving forward hour by hour, minute by minute. There are multitudes who seem to think that they can live by any schedule they choose and that, in their own time, they can turn to God. But His time is the right time. Now it may be later than they think. Soon it may be too late. "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2).

PRAYER THOUGHT

You should accept God today, because you never know what tomorrow will bring forth.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.



Special Moments

Dear Readers,

From the inception of the column, God has been praised and glorified. Each letter was a beautiful testimony to our Lord and a blessing immeasurable in terms of spiritual value.

However, it seems appropriate at this particular time to put the column to rest for a while in the hope that with time it will increase in value in the minds and hearts of those who have benefitted from it as well as those who have contributed to its weekly publication.

God bless each of you.

Love,
Maggie

TWO FOR ONE

by Ann S. Clark
Greenville, North Carolina

From love, labor pains bring forth twins.
One is born with all parts working,
The other one is injured.

Now, as this day winds into years
The troubled twin dismays,
"Why is she not like me?"

When silent sounds are all around
And hearts are meant to open,
The Wise One gently answers her,
"For Me."

Two for One . . . .

LIGHTS FOR THE SPRINGTIME OF LIFE

(An address by W. Burkette Raper, President, to the students of Mount Olive College)

WE are moving rapidly and irretrievably toward the end of this academic year at Mount Olive College. For many of you, your stay on this campus is almost over. For all of you, I hope this is a time for serious consideration of where you are and where you are headed.

I told a 1977 graduate that I would be speaking today and asked if she had any suggestions on what would be helpful to you. Her reply was: "Tell them to hang in there--that there is light at the end of the tunnel." Well, I want to talk with you about that light, but I also sense that some of you may need some light **now**--while you are in the tunnel.

Today, I want to turn on three lights that the Apostle Paul gave his friends.

I. Our Concern for Our Students

"Bear ye one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2). One of the primary reasons you came to college was because you felt you needed help in attaining an education. If you had believed you could educate yourself by yourself, you could have saved considerable expense and travel time by staying home and "doing it yourself."

Perhaps one of your reasons for choosing Mount Olive was our motto, "The College that cares," and through the years we have worked hard to make this motto a reality in the experience of each student. In the words of the Apostle Paul, we want to help our students to carry their burdens.

We recognize that your burdens are often heavy. Sometimes there is the financial burden of an education, and Mount Olive College goes the second mile in helping worthy students to carry this burden. This year our financial aid program exceeded $500,000 and accounted for one-half of the total charges made to students for tuition, fees, room and board, and without this help many of you would have found the financial burden of an education heavier than you could carry.

But limited financial resources are not the heaviest burden to befall us. Our heaviest burdens are those of the inner life: loneliness, the feeling that no one else cares, the sense of despair which comes from feeling that no one has confidence in us, and the loss of faith in ourselves.

I remember well that Saturday in July 1944 when I left the Free Will Baptist Children's Home at Middlesex, North Carolina, and entered Duke University. All my clothes were in one suitcase, my money--all $50 of it!--was in my pockets, and I had my first checkbook which I thought gave me access to a $300 loan which I had deposited in a bank in Middlesex. The next week when I presented the first check I had ever written, the teller methodically told me that he could not honor out-of-town checks. I produced my yellow deposit slip which I thought was conclusive evidence that I had money in the bank, but his cold reply was, "That does not prove anything--you could have drawn it all out the next day," he declared. Looking to the person behind me, he called "Next, please."

From a high school graduating class of twenty-seven to a campus of 5,000 souls, and a city of 60,000 faces, all unknown to me: this was the setting for the beginning of my college education.

What did I need? My scholarship and loan covered my tuition and room, my job earned three good meals daily, but "man does not live by bread alone." I needed faith in God and I needed someone who would help bear my burdens of mind and spirit.

The Chapel of Duke University will always be a sacred place to me, for there, whether on Sunday morning or at Thursday evening vespers or just during the day when I wanted to stop in, I found the living presence of a loving God, and often heard the voice of One who said:

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

"Bear ye one another's burdens." Gradually I found those who with joy fulfilled this law of Christ. Often I was invited to speak at churches throughout eastern North Carolina, and sometimes a firm handshake at the door left folding money in the palm of my hand, and always there were words of encouragement. When the burdens of life became more than I felt I could carry, the thing which made it impossible to give up was the feeling that there were people who believed in me and I could not disappoint them.

Many of you have had this experience on this campus: you have found here teachers, counselors, and other personnel who shared your burdens by believing in you, and by inspiring you to believe in yourself. No finer statement could be said of a person than the following tribute paid to one of our teachers by

a member of the 1978 graduating class: "She built me up when I was down; she gave me hope when I thought there was none."

It is indeed our hope and prayer that Mount Olive be a "College that cares" and that students will always find here those who will help carry their burdens.

II. Your Responsibility

A second light for the pilgrimage of life given by Paul was, "Every man shall bear his own burden" (Galatians 6:5).

This statement by Paul might appear at first to contradict his previous admonition, "Bear ye one another's burdens," but not so. The Apostle is bringing into right relationship two of the most vital components of human life: (1) We all need one another, but (2) There are certain things we must do for ourselves. In life there is an inseparable inter-play between charity and responsibility.

Regardless of how much Mount Olive College cares for its students, there is a clear limit to what we can do.

We can **help** you to attain an education;
but we cannot **give** you an education;
We can award you a scholarship,
but we cannot make you a scholar;
We can pick up one end of your burden,
but we cannot pick up both ends;
We can teach you,
but we cannot learn for you;
We can provide a library for you
but we cannot read for you;
We can explain to you the moral principles of life,
but we cannot set your moral standards;
We can require you to attend a religious convocation,
but we cannot worship for you.
I can speak to you,
but I cannot hear for you.

And unless you believe and implement what I have just said, no amount of caring and no degree of charity can help you. The most important qualities of life come from experiences, and no one can have an experience for you.

"No one saves us but ourselves;
No one can and no one may,
We ourselves must walk the Path,
Teachers merely show the way"
—Nancy Wilson Ross

I shall always remember the scene of final examinations at the close of my first semester in college. For months, I had been impressed with the large books, heavy books, many books the Navy students carried to class every day, but then one evening I was relaxing on the campus lawn before going in to study for my first exam the next day. From about 6:30 to 6:50 p. m. there was a steady stream of the men in white uniforms as they walked from the dormitory area to the classrooms; they carried absolutely nothing in their hands. Upon arrival in the classroom they would be given a copy of the exam and a "blue book" in which to write; the only thing they could carry with them was what was in their heads.

"Every man shall bear his own burden," said Paul, and to know this truth is the first step toward an education, and manhood or womanhood.

III. The Harvest

The light which Paul put at the end of the tunnel was, "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap," (Galatians 6:7).

If I were asked, "What does life require of us?" my answer would be: "To reap what we sow." The only exception to this truth is that we may reap **more** grain than we sow but **not a different** grain. This is an inexorable law of life and we can no more change it than we can alter the solar system.

Right living is not a favor we do for God, but a service we do for ourselves.

We are now in the season of spring, and all around us nature is exploding with power and beauty. Every flower and every leaf is an expression of the seed, bulb or plant from which it springs:

A tulip can come only from a tulip bulb;
A peach blossom can come only from a peach tree;
Only an oak tree can produce an oak leaf.

This law of nature is fixed and it is dependable. Whatever the farmer wants to reap this summer and fall, he plants this spring. Nature will not deceive him. In the first book of the Bible, God gave this assurance to man: "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest . . . shall not cease" (Genesis 8:22).

You, students, are now in the springtime of life. Some of the seeds you have planted have already come up, but for the most part you are now in your major planting season. Your college-age years are decisive, and what you plant now you will reap the rest of your life. The only way to control the harvest is to control the planting.

You want freedom. You have it because God gave it to you, but remember the kind of universe God made. You are free to choose what you will sow, but having made that choice, you are not free to choose the harvest. God gives the farmer land to cultivate and the farmer can choose what to plant, but if he decides to plant corn, he cannot expect to change his mind during the summer and harvest beans in the fall.

We are free to observe or to break the Ten Commandments, but we cannot ignore them because they are woven into the fabric of life. For example, take the first commandment: "Thou shalt have no other gods before me," (Exodus 20:3). We can worship anything or anyone we choose, but it is an inexorable law of life that we become like what we put first in life. We grow in the direction of what we love most. Once I choose what comes first in my life, I have then determined the kind of person I will become.

(Continued on Page 14)

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"

mission work...

at home and abroad.

Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
Director—Treasurer
P. O. Box 979
Goldsboro, N. C. 27530

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
Fayetteville, N. C. 28305

JOINT BAPTISMAL SERVICE HELD



The Revs. Alton Howard and Bobby Murray baptize a new convert.

A joint baptismal service was held by the Victory, Catalpa, and Haymount Missions of the Fayetteville-Hope Mills area. The pastor pictured is the Rev. Alton Howard, being assisted by Pastor Bobby Murray.

HAYMOUNT MISSION HOMECOMING



Group fellowshipping

The Haymount Mission of Fayetteville held its second annual homecoming on May 7. The neighboring missions (Victory and Catalpa) came and helped spread lunch.

A singspiration was held in the afternoon, and Pastor Taylor Hill describes the whole event as being just great. The mission is located in the Haymount Hill area, 1209 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

CHARLOTTE MISSION DEDICATES NEW BUILDING

The Heritage Free Will Baptist Mission of Charlotte dedicated its new building on April 30. Visitors on hand for the occasion were the Rev. and Mrs. Taylor Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Kennedy, The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Bazen, the youth choir from Black Jack church, and many other friends and neighbors of the mission members.



New Heritage Mission stands proudly.

It was a joyous occassion for all. Lunch was served after the morning message was presented by the Rev. Bobby Bazen, pastor of Black Jack, the mother church, near Greenville, North Carolina.

The mission pastor, the Rev. Wayne Watson, led in the dedication ceremonies. State Home Missions Director Taylor Hill made appropriate remarks, stating the purpose and challenge for the new work. A plaque of appreciation was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Everette for the generous use of their home for the mission services.



Pictured are the Rev. Bobby Bazen and the Black Jack Youth Choir who presented special music.

The group reassembled in the afternoon for a singspiration. Several visiting singers were on hand, including the youth choir from Black Jack which presented an inspirational program of music.

The membership wishes to express their deepest love and appreciation for all who have helped the mission in any way. They especially thank the mother church (Black Jack) for its guidance and support.

The mission is located on the corner of Margaret Wallace and Sam Newell Streets, on the east side of Charlotte near the city limits off Highway 74. The pastor's phone number is (704) 568-0159.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. J. B. Starnes announces that he has resigned Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church effective May 14. He now is supply pastor for the Faith church, Morehead City. His new address is the Rev. J. B. Starnes, Route 1, Box 608C, Morehead City, North Carolina. His phone number is 726-4218.

NEWS & NOTES

Arnold O. Jones To Speak at Elm Grove

On Sunday morning, May 28, 1978, there will be a special Laymen's Service at Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Ayden. The laymen of the church will be in charge of carrying out the morning worship.

As a special guest of the laymen and the church the Honorable Arnold O. Jones of Golsboro will bring the morning message. Mr. Jones is an outstanding Christian layman who is a member of the Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church. He is also a District Court Judge of the Eighth Judicial District, which includes Wayne, Lenoir, and Greene Counties. He is one of a very few non-lawyer judges in North Carolina and has made an impressive reputation for himself in his work.

The laymen of the church invite all who will attend to join in this special service at 11 a. m. on May 28.

"The Bridge" to Present Program in Wilson

Craig Simmons, youth pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, announces a special program to be presented by "The Bridge," a Christian band of Greensboro. There are fifteen different musical instruments in the band, and the members are involved full time in the ministry of Christian music. Most of the music they perform is written and/or arranged by members of the group.

The program will be presented at 7:30 Friday evening, June 2, in the Wilson American Legion Auditorium located on Highway 301. Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend.

The program is sponsored by the youth of the First Church, Wilson.

Gospel Sing at Otter's Creek

A gospel sing will be held at Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Macclesfield, on Sunday, May 27, 1978, at 7:30 p. m. The guest singers will be "The Mellotones Quartet" of Kinston, North Carolina. Everyone who enjoys good singing is invited to attend what promises to be an enjoyable and inspirational program.

Revival and Homecoming At Sea Level



Johnnie Bullman

Free Union Free Will Baptist Church of Sea Level has scheduled revival services June 5 through June 9. The Rev. Johnnie Bullman, pastor of Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Spartanburg, South Carolina, will be the evangelist.

There will be special singing groups each night and a nursery will be provided.

On Sunday, June 12, there will be a homecoming dinner on the grounds. The pastor, the Rev. Alton Mason, invites all to attend the revival services and homecoming.

Revival at Faith Mission, Leland

Faith Mission at Leland will hold its spring revival June 5-9. The Rev. Walter Sutton of Vanceboro will be the evangelist.

The Rev. Roger Heath, pastor, extends a cordial invitation to all to come worship with them.

OPEN LETTER TO MINISTERS AND LAY PERSONS

Dear Fellow Laborers,

The Executive Committee and the Examining Board of the Eastern Conference in cooperation with the Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere, Inc. are planning a pastors' conference for May 26, 27, 1978, at Camp Vandemere. All pastors and their wives and interested laymen are invited to take part. The only cost will be for meals.

The conference will begin on Friday afternoon with a time of fellowship and relaxation. The evening meal will be at 5:30. A worship service will be that night. On Saturday, breakfast will be at 8:30, followed with workshops and discussions on the work of the revision committee for our Statement of Faith and Discipline. The conference will close at 3:30 on Saturday afternoon.

Each person planning to spend the night is asked to bring his own bed linens, towels, and personal articles.

The camp board extends to you a very special invitation to come and see YOUR Camp.

Please inform me if you plan to attend so we will know how to plan the meals. You may call me at 249-1329.

Sincerely,
Ralph Sumner, Camp Director
Oriental, North Carolina

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For June 4

SPREADING THE GOOD NEWS

Lesson Text: Acts 1+:8-18
Memory Verse: Luke 24:47, 48

I. INTRODUCTION

One day two strangers arrived at the gates of Lystra, a city in Asia Minor. Had the citizens known the recent experiences of these two men, Paul and Barnabas, they might have asked them not to stop in their city. They had been troublemakers, religious troublemakers. What good could the Lystrans have expected from these men? When the religious leaders of the city were well satisfied with the traditional ceremonial ritual and the people responsive to their leadership, this was no time to disturb established practices of worship.

They **were** men. Paul and Barnabas claimed to be nothing more. They did manifest supernatural power, healing a cripple. As a result, the Lystrans called them gods and would have done homage to them by offering sacrifices. But Paul and Barnabas stopped them, saying "We also are men, of like passions with you."

They were men. But they were more: they were men with a message. They were mortal men; but they called men to immortality. "We bring you good news," they said. "We are messengers of the living God, who alone is the source of life, the author and sustainer of all life. He made the heavens, seas, earth, and are things that dwell therein. All power and glory are His dominion. Here is the good news: if you will turn to Him, He will give you eternal life."

The message the church proclaims today is the same; it has not changed in two thousand years. And the need for men and women to proclaim that message to a lost world has not diminished in the least.--**The Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. It is important in these lessons on the last half of the Book of Acts that you study the whole background Scripture; it will be difficult for you to get the full lesson from the printed portions.

B. Point out that the founding of the church at Antioch begins a new section of the Book of Acts. Now the gospel is being carried to all the world.

C. This lesson contains the first indication that men who are set apart for the spreading of the gospel were ordained. Point out this ordination (Acts 13:3).

D. Point out that this does not mean that those who are not ordained do not have a responsibility. Throughout the Book of Acts it is borne out that all Christians are witnesses for Christ.

E. This lesson is an opportunity to show that those who believe the gospel and trust Christ find a new freedom. Discuss some of the changes that take place in a person's life when he becomes a Christian.

--**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. We covered more than half of the Book of Acts in our lessons last quarter; in the next three months we will finish the book, as well as study some passages from First and Second Thessalonians, all on the general theme, "The Church: Its Nature and Mission."

B. These lessons "emphasize the work of Paul as Christian faith emerges from its Jewish background to become a worldwide gospel. The focus is on the developing qualities and power of the Christian church in its missionary motivation, courageous venturing and maturing fellowship." These studies are a call to "continuing steadfast in the faith at the same time that we attempt to minister in the community and the world.

C. The material in this quarter's studies is divided into three units: (1) "A Worldwide Mission," (2) "A Realistic Faith," and (3) "Integrity in Witness." As we come to each of these units we will give a brief resume of what the lessons contain. This new feature may help the student to grasp better the purpose and object of his study.

D. Paul had spoken to them in Greek, which was the common language of that part of the world, but the amazed people spoke in their own dialect as they conferred. They declared that Paul and Barnabas were gods who had come down (perhaps from Mount Olympus). It was not unusual for these heathen people to think their gods would appear to them as men. They attributed many characteristics of human beings to their numerous gods and goddesses.

--**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

Coming Events . . .

June 5--Revision Committee of Faith and Discipline will meet at the Press, 10 A. M.

June 12--Summer School Sesson A begins at Mount Olive College. Applications are being accepted now.

June 19-23--Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

EVANSES CELEBRATE FIFTY YEARS OF MARRIAGE



The Rev. and Mrs. James A. Evans

The Rev. and Mrs. James A. Evans of Seven Springs celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with a reception given by their children: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Leonard Haddock of Chesapeake, Virginia; Mr. and Mrs. James Arthur Evans of Raleigh; Mrs. Lorraine Bass, of Wilson; and Mr. and Mrs. John Phillip Griffin of Richmond, Virginia. The reception was held in the fellowship building of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Goldsboro. They were married February 18, 1928, in the First Free Will Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Florida. Mrs. Evans is the former Ethel Fay Andreu of Jacksonville, Florida.

Decorations were of the golden wedding motif. A memorabilia display included the original wedding announcement from the local newspaper, the silver wedding announcement as well as the golden wedding announcement and pictures of various stages of their life and career. A number of friends and relatives, many of them from other states, attended the reception held on February 18, 1978.

CAMP VANDEMERE RETREAT TERMED SUCCESS

The first annual Camp Vandemere Junior-Senior weekend can be rightfully called a blessing from God. With a humble beginning in the minds of the Camp Vandemere Board over a year ago, the first Junior-Senior retreat became a reality on April 21-23. Numbers did not make this weekend a success, but the **Spirit of God** certainly did.

Camp began on Friday night, with registration and small talk. Devotions closed the first night of camp with a satisfying "sigh." Saturday began with a hearty breakfast, physically (prepared by Mrs. Lynne Harris and Mrs. Pauline Mizzell), and Philippians 4:8, spiritually.

The day continued while energy was drained by volleyball, horseshoes, frisbee, and just plain fun. Some of this energy was replaced by hamburgers and hot dogs cooked on an open grill for lunch. Action continued with more volleyball and softball. Participation was 100 percent during the whole retreat.

As night approached, a pig donated by the Rev. Walter Sutton, (Macedonia church) and cooked by Randolph Wilson and Carroll Hawkins (Core Creek church), became ready for picking.

A film, **Senior Year**, was shown and enjoyed by all at 7:30. The day ended around a campfire, with songs, and words of praise which filled the cool night air. After another hour of pure laughter, all were ready for a good night's rest.

Sunday morning found all ready for an excellent Sunday school lesson and worship service.

Fried fish gave energy for one last volleyball game before good-byes began to sting the heart.

Attending the retreat were: Faith Edwards Dale, Charlene Richardson, and Roy Lewis of Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church; Christine Gray of Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church; Mark Ogelsby of Jasper Christian Church; Esther

(Continued on Page 14)

EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT CAMP VANDEMERE

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary will hold their third conference at Camp Vandemere, June 19-23. District President, Mrs. John W. Taylor, will serve as camp director, with Mrs. Fred M. Register, State Study Course Chairman, assisting. Each day will include devotional talks, Bible studies, music classes, crafts, and recreation. On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Hulon Whitehead will show films of the Holy Land.

All churches are invited to come and help make the night services a week of revival by adding their congregations and choirs to the campers. There will be special services and singing each night beginning at 8 p. m. Some of the ministers who will be speaking at these services include Dr. Burkette Raper of Mount Olive College, the Rev. Don Gray, and our missionaries, the Rev. and Mrs. Fred Baker.

We invite the people of our churches to visit us at Camp Vandemere during our conference. Come and see what the camp is really like. We are anxious to serve our denomination. Continue to pray for the success of God's work at Camp Vandemere.

If you cannot spend the entire week, we invite you to come for the day. Let us know when you plan to come.

The cost of the camp is $35. If you have not registered for camp, please do so now. Registration fee is $5, with the remainder due upon arrival at camp.

APPLICATION

NAME _____

AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CHURCH _____

Send application to:

Mrs. John W. Taylor, Director-Registrar
Route 1, Box 187
Deep Run, North Carolina 28525

Lights for the Springtime . . .

(Continued from Page 9)

Dr. Oscar Fisher Blackwelder was right when he wrote, "Soon or late men sit down to a banquet of results and consequences." There is a Spanish proverb which reads:

"God says: Take what you want and pay for it." You may have what you want in life, but remember that you must pay for it. Everything has its price; nothing is free.

Summary

These, then, are three lights for the springtime of life:

(1) "Bear ye one another's burdens."

We will do that because we love you and care for you.

(2) "Every man shall bear his own burden."

There is only so much someone else can do for you.

The ultimate responsibility for your education and for your life is in your hands.

(3) The law of the universe is, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

JUNIOR-SENIOR RETREAT

(Continued from Page 13)

Heath, Lisa Heath, and John Hawkins of Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church; and Gail Patterson of Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church.

Thanks go to all these young people for the respect and love they gave to each other and their counselors. The counselors were Maurice and Rebecca Hill, and Vernon and Linda McCoy.

Words to explain the atmosphere of this retreat cannot be written. This description can only be felt in the hearts of all those who attended.

If you see some of the above mentioned people, ask if they will open their heart to you concerning Camp Vandemere Junior-Senior weekend.

My thanks go to all persons involved with the retreat, and the praise for it all goes to God.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Calvin A. Heath, Director

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Frank Brown will be available for pastoral services after June 9, 1978. He can be contacted by writing P. O. Box 347, Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586; or phone 244-0027. He is presently serving Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro.

MOC

THE 1978 GRADUATING CLASS OF MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



PROPOSED CHRISTIAN STUDIES



The Rev. Michael Pelt conducts session.

Interested Free Will Baptists met recently at Mount Olive College to discuss a special program of study for ministers and laymen whose work or educational background will not permit them to enroll in the regular degree program.

College officials headed by Dr. Michael Pelt, pictured in foreground, Chairman for the Humanities Division, proposed different courses relating to studies of the Bible, the Mission of the Church, Preparations for the Ministry, and general studies such as communication skills, public speaking, etc.

MRS. RILEY TO SPEAK

Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director of Admissions, will speak at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church in Beaufort County on Sunday, May 28, for the morning worship service.

The Rev. Paul Grubbs is pastor.

Support Mount Olive College now and always.

LIBRARY
DUKE UNIVERSITY
DURHAM, N. C. 27706

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of April, 1978 totaled $467.50 and were as follows:

In Memory of

Carlton Brooks Barefoot, Jr. by Mr. and Mrs. William H. Brickhouse, Mr. and Mrs. Julius L. Bishop, Jr., Raleigh; and Mr. Sherrill Williams, Newton Grove.

Mrs. Annie Farmer Bishop by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Evelyn E. Boykin by Woman's Auxiliary, Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly.

Terry Wayne Brandenburg by Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Mary F. Brock by Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Irene Brown by Mrs. Erdean G. Hatcher and Mrs. Annie G. Taylor, Selma.

Benjamin Caudell by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Parks and Family, Calypso.

Mr. E. N. Connor by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mr. Carl Davis by Mrs. Lora King, Mount Olive; Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin; Mount Olive; and Par Chasers, Southern Wayne Country Club, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Channie Foster by Mrs. Erdean G. Hatcher and Mrs. Annie G. Taylor, Selma.

James Joel Gilbert by Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, Mount Olive, Mount Olive Faculty, Mount Olive; Mount Olive College Secretaries, Mount Olive.

Brodie Goodman by the Reverend and Mrs. Larry J. Crumpler, Albertson, and Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Hare, Pikeville.

David Wesley Grantham by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr., Lucama.

Kenneth Vance Grey by Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Early, Ahoskie.

William Paul Grubbs by Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, Mount Olive.

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Mrs. Lizzie S. Jones by Ruth Warrick Sunday School Class, Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield.

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James A. Mason by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Zack and Delma Newbold by Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount Olive.

William O. Owens by Mrs. Daisy Owens and Mrs. Effie Webb, Elm City.

Norman Peedin by Mrs. Carrena Williams, Kenly, and Mrs. Eva Williamson, Princeton.

R. V. Phillips by Mr. and Mrs. Davis Evans, Kenansville.

W. Harvey Pittman by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Sr., Lucama.

Mrs. Hattie M. Scott by Mr. and Mrs. Randall Albertson, Mount Olive and Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount Olive.

Emmerson Smith by Mr. and Mrs. Davis Evans, Kenansville.

J. H. Talton by Mr. and Mrs. Norris Jordan, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Selma Tew by Mrs. Harvey Barefoot, Dunn; Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount Olive; Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church Choir, Dunn; and Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Carroll, Dunn.

Johnnie Walston by Mrs. Daisy Owens and Mrs. Effie Webb, Elm City.

Cecil Waters by Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount Olive; Mr. D. J. Murray, Mount Olive; and Mr. W. B. Murray Jr., Mount Olive.

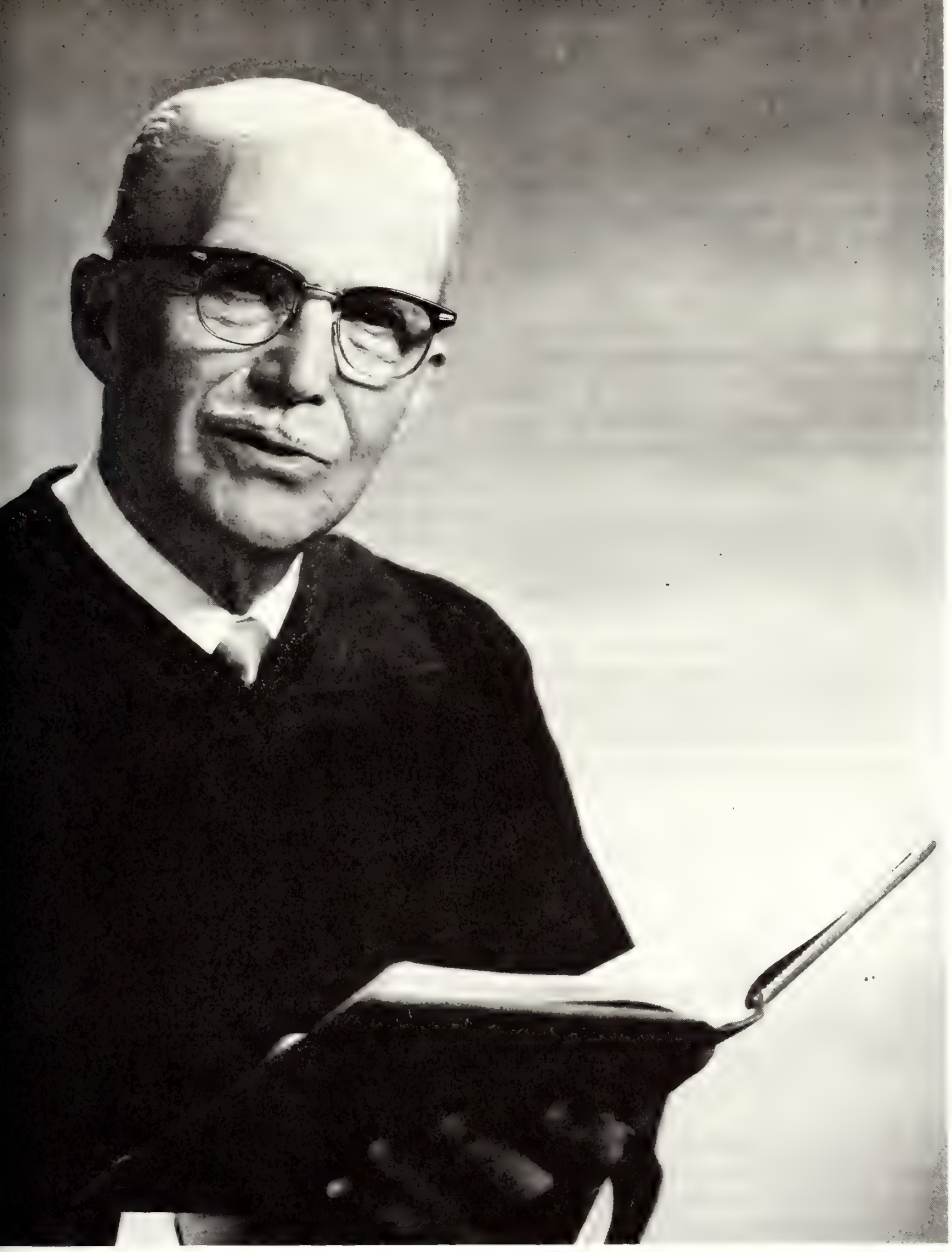
Mrs. Blanche White by Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Hazel Wiggins by Loyd, Mary Lou, and Thelma Dilday, Ahoskie; Mrs. O. E. Willoughby and Miss Sara Willoughby, Ahoskie.

In Honor of

Mr. and Mrs. Kermit West by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive, and Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Warwick, Newton Grove.

f 85 7cc



BECOME
CONCERNED
ONLY
WHEN
YOU
CANNOT
IDENTIFY
THE
REASONS
YOUR
ENEMIES
HATE
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DUKE UNIVERSITY
MAY 31 19

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

THE RIGHT KIND OF ENEMY

Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts

Few people relish having enemies. Many people, in fact, *fear* having enemies, and consequently spend an overabundance of time trying to make friends. Popularity is so high on the list of personal priorities that most individuals make valiant efforts to become acceptable in the eyes of *everybody*. This is an ideal that is seldom, if ever, achieved.

There are two types of enemies: the ones who alienate themselves *without reason*, and the others who alienate themselves *for good reason*. The latter is the right kind of enemy. To term an enemy as the *right kind* seems contradictory, but there are circumstances when one should welcome the ill regard of another.

We are unwise to measure our effectiveness by the numerous friends we can claim who laud us beyond merit, for the old adage still stands that *the man who receives no criticism probably does nothing*. We would not suggest here that criticism always comes from *enemies*, for friends should be able to offer constructive comments toward our better conduct or performance. But, enemies and friends (though sometimes difficult to distinguish) make their real selves known when a need arises. There is no truer statement than that perhaps overstated affirmation: "A friend in need is a friend indeed." Who would deny the good feeling of knowing that "in the fell clutch of circumstance" there is a friend close at hand?

The support of friends makes us strong; and as strange as it might seem, an enemy's ill will can make us stronger. Here is where we have to differentiate between the right and wrong kind of enemy. The wrong kind is the one who really hates us, mistreats us, and can offer no reason for the hate. The right kind expresses his reason in action, word, or some other manner. Behind his reason is a sound cause; so his disagreeing to the point of trying to hurt us (while not sanctioned, certainly) is neither to be viewed too negatively. He, at least, has or *thinks* he has just cause. This is the kind of enemy we should respect.

Yes, respect. We owe our enemies respect, for a real enemy is more to be appreciated than a false friend. Consider Cain and Abel, Esau and Jacob, Saul and David. In each case, one hated the other; but there was no pretense to the contrary. All of us should delight in a person making his true self known to us. We surely want to know who is and who is not our friend. (To offer a personal opinion, I'd rather have a bitter enemy who shows his true face than a false friend who waits until I'm out of earshot before he proceeds to tear me apart. And I feel confident that most people share this feeling.)

If we can make friends of our enemies, good! We should strive for this ideal, though the actual achievement of such an end is remote. There is probably no one in the world who can claim to have made friends of all his foes. Viewed realistically, the classic statement of Will Rogers: "I never saw a man I didn't like" can be questioned. Even if Will Rogers could truly make the statement, it is doubtful that all of his acquaintances could—or should.

The story is told of a saintly Southern attorney who was hated by some of his fellow citizens with what was described as a hate surpassing that which Evil has for Goodness. The odd thing about the seemingly devasting situation is that the sainted gentleman appeared to take strength from that obvious hatred. When asked how, he answered: "I become concerned only when I cannot identify the *reasons* my enemies hate me."

As we all know, Christ had His share of enemies. They sought to entrap Him in all manner of wrongdoing. Never succeeding to prove Him a sinner, they nonetheless continued in their criticism of Him—and His enemies persist in that criticism even to the present day. We should strive to be like Him, and "marvel not" if the world hates us. The prevalence of enemies of the *right kind* helps us know that we aren't doing everything *wrong!*

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MAY 31, 1978

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Smithfield, New Bern, and **Wilson,** 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday—Saturday.

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PARSONAGE LIFE:

submitted by DeW. Eakes

THE WIFE'S VIEWPOINT

by Beverly Croskery

WHEN the Academy of Parish Clergy agreed to conduct a survey of ministers' wives, it was in the hope of gaining valuable input in setting academy goals. I was asked to design the survey, and I did so with a second purpose in mind as well: to gain insights into the way the wife sees her role (how comfortable she is in it, special problems or pressures she feels, effects on the family, etc.) and to be able to make recommendations to those who might be instrumental in improving her situation.

When my husband was attending divinity school, one of the prominent professors there was conducting one of the courses for wives. Once he remarked that he enjoyed that course more than teaching the divinity students. His reason was that the students were always on guard, weighing what effect their questions would have, constantly aware of how they **should** be thinking or answering. In contrast, he said, the wives were completely honest, asking because they wanted to know, and responding based on how they really felt.

This view somewhat echoes that expressed by Anais Nin, the flamenco dancer, psychoanalyst, author, who noted: "Women are so much more honest than men. A woman says, 'I am jealous.' A man covers it up with a system of philosophy, a book of literary criticism, a study of psychology."

Though clergymen probably will disagree, I am convinced that there is validity in the views expressed above. In their openness, the clergy wives may well throw wide the doors to a greater understanding of the difficult role they fill.

The Wife's Role

The questionnaire sent to the wives of academy members last spring was designed to evoke honest responses to the problems and rewards of clergy life from the wife's view. An attempt was also made to determine wives' priorities in improving the lot of clergy families in general. To date almost 200 responses have been received. They reveal that, like it or not, the wife of a clergyman is bound to the profession. Even those who resented the label admit that its existence is a reality. A few of the comments along this line were:

"Strongly resent the idea that the wife automatically should be involved in her husband's work. I don't expect him to be involved in mine. This ancient idea must go."

(My greatest problem is) "Anonymity—an appendage to my husband"; and "Congregation's assumption that the wife has made the same commitment to the church."

No attempt was made in this survey to determine how the husbands of female clergy felt about their roles, although this might indeed be a question for the future. The very nature of being a woman makes her role different from that of a man married to a female clergyperson; the same expectations will not be there simply because he is a man.

My attempted interpretation of the results has not been an indepth one; however, on the basis of a great deal of experiences in interpreting tests and surveys in the field of public education, and of having been a pastor's wife for 21 years, I feel that certain conclusions can be drawn from the survey, limited though it was.

Who Is She?

While responses came from women as young as 19 and as old as 70, the respondent's average age was about 40. She had been married 20 years and had two and one-half children. Denominations represented were United Methodist, United Church of Christ, Presbyterian, Disciples of Christ, Episcopal, Lutheran, Baptist, and Moravian. Several respondents did not identify denominations.

More than 75 percent of the wives are college graduates (all are high school graduates), and more than 25 percent have master's degrees. In addition, there are eight with doctorates, 4 percent of the total—an extremely well educated group of women.

Most of the wives report having worked at some period in their lives, but the average time worked since marriage is only 5.4 years. The average salary is $6,500 (the figure is low because it includes part-time work); wives' salaries ranged up to $20,000. Occupationally, the largest single group was teachers. Nurses ran a close second, and secretaries third. Assorted others were medical technologist, chemist, lawyer, social worker, religious education director, music director, librarian, school administrator and pharmacist. Several wives were students, and a few identified themselves as homemakers—a highly varied list.

The average church served by her husband had approximately 500 members, and his salary was $11,000 total.

What Are Her Problems?

In the category concerning problems related to being married to a clergyman, wives were asked to rank-order the five most serious ones from a selected list. Room for "others" was also provided. The problems areas were ranked in the following order: (1) congregation's demands on husband's

Turn the Page

time, (2) financial insecurity, (3) lack of social life outside the church, (4) pressures on children, (5) living in a manse, (6) life in a goldfish bowl, (7) and (8) (tied) double standard expected, and trapped feeling, (9) poor self image (10) frustration in conforming to expected life style, (11) expectation to give service without financial reward, (12) jealousy of time and talent on the part of parishioners, (13) need to accept special favors and discounts, and (14) unfair treatment by parishioners.

All of these represented problems to at least some of the wives. They also added a few of their own:

"The threat of having to move when I am settled"

"My husband's expectations to give service without financial reward"

"Lack of close friends"

"No weekends to go on holidays like other families"

"Too far from relatives"

"Sharing ministry sometimes makes my husband feel I am competing rather than being involved as a member of the congregation."

"Employers feel clergy are unstable, therefore are reluctant to hire me for a position even though I'm well qualified."

"Need for a pastor . . . I have no one to turn to."

"Expectation to be a professional Christian."

One comment made a number of times concerned the pressures husbands put on themselves. Many wives classified their husbands as "workaholics," sometimes doing chores that no one expects of them, such as setting the table for church dinners. Also frequently mentioned was that the wife's professional needs always rank second to those of the husband: "My professional needs must always rank below my husband's because his vocation is tied to the authoritarian structure of the church, the bishop, and even God!"

Three of the wives responding could identify no problems. According to one of these, "I consider my life in the parsonage a privilege, not a problem." Another noted that being tuned into Christ had solved all her problems.

Yes, There Are Rewards

The third section of the questionnaire explored those aspects of being married to a clergyman which brought the greatest rewards. These were ranked by the wives in the following order:

(1) harmonious marriage, (2) living in a loving relationship with parishioners, (3) opportunities to use time and talent, (4) support from parishioners, (5) feeling of accomplishment, (6) good self image, (7) appreciation of time and talent by parishioners and community, (8) feeling of freedom, (9) special favors and discounts offered, and (10) financial security.

In contrast to the top ranking, several women offered the opinion that the husband's being a clergyman had little to do with a harmonious marriage. Supporting those who thought the two were closely related was a majority of the wives attending the annual academy meeting last April, who spoke of "a beautiful quality of life" and "a spiritual dimension" that contributed to harmony in marriage and family life.

It is of interest that few wives experience resentment from the parish in regard to their outside job, although several commented that they had not dared to work a few years ago, but were enjoying doing so now. This indicates that to some degree women's liberation may indeed have touched the clergy wife.

In rating how husbands felt about their ministries, the wives were given choices of "extremely happy," "reasonably happy," "about average," "somewhat frustrated," "very frustrated," "unhappy," and "would change if he could." The largest single choice—checked by more than half—was "reasonably happy." However, several who chose this rating qualified it with an additional check for "somewhat frustrated" (which came in second). Less than 10 per cent checked "extremely happy," less than 5 per cent each went to "average" and "would change if he could," and only one individual indicated "unhappy."

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(Continued next week)

He who

is born

of God

is certain

to resemble

his father.

LAND OF THE FREE. . . THANK GOD

by J.C. Forni

Our political system is unique in the history of the world. Let me repeat that. Our political system is unique in the history of the world. Am I boring you?

Most of us have heard this and similar statements so often and in so many variations that their impact has been lost. Our minds yawn and turn to other concerns. But do you remember what makes our system so different, and so significant?

Separation. Separation of power into three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial. And separation of religion and religious beliefs from the realm of government authority. It is this second separation that allows us to disagree with our neighbors about how to worship God, yet remain friends and neighbors. It also allows us to pursue and exercise our own relationship with God without fear of arrest or imprisonment or civil censure of any kind.

We call this religious freedom, and ours is the only system that has ever allowed it to flourish. But I believe that our system, and thus this freedom, are presently being threatened in a subtle, but real way. It seems appropriate, at a time when we pause to honor the many who have died protecting and preserving our system, to comment on this threat.

These comments are based on an article in **Christianity and Crisis**. The article, "Something Versus Nothing/The Real Threat of the Moonies," is by Harvey Cox, a Contributing Editor who teaches at Harvard Divinity School. The thoughts printed here were originally prompted by the following passage from that article:

". . . Ted Patrick, the famous deprogrammer, made his original case against the Moonies by insisting that they represented a communist plot to subvert the youth of America. The lecturer at the workshop I (Cox) attended frequently referred to capitalism as an example of the institutionalized selfishness which the Divine Principle is designed to eradicate. (His comment on communism: It's better than capitalism 'in principle' since it looks to the whole rather than the individual, but its advocates have used 'wrong methods' to introduce it, i. e., force.) The lecturer often used the term 'true socialism' to describe the coming Kingdom of God on earth. . .The main political errors of the Moonies are confusion, ignorance and innocence. Like most mainstream Americans, they are against communism and pornography, for the family and God. Making all the connections is left to someone else."

Elsewhere the article states: "Unification thought insists that its most important contribution is the idea of 'restoration' of God's original plan and the building of the Heavenly Kingdom on earth." This concept is referred to as a "social gospel" and described as a system guided in its economic and cultural life by religious teachings. The Moonies seem to intend to integrate all systems—economic, political, and religious—under one, true socialism.

Thus, in theory, communism is preferable to capitalism because the former institutionalizes sharing while the latter institutionalizes selfishness. Characterizing our system as "institutionalized selfishness" automatically relegates it to the realm of bad and undesirable. Who among us would care to stand and argue for selfishness?

But what will we adopt to replace our bad system? According to the Moonies, the Divine Principle is designed to eradicate such selfishness.

The Moonies want to bring about the Kingdom of God on earth. They are convinced that "the Messiah will return when human beings have done their part to prepare the way." The proper preparation is adoption of what is called "true socialism," perhaps to distinguish it from the socialistic and communistic systems now existing in the world, which have failed to realize paradise on earth.

What is true socialism? Is it communism without the force? Does it mean the Moonies intend to convert us peacefully to the principles of communal sharing and common ownership? to the Divine Principle? But what happens to those who resist such enlightenment? There is tolerance in our system for those who wish to live by such principles. Will there be similar opportunites, under true socialism, for those who wish to practice "institutionalized selfishness"?

Will those who resist conversion be removed from society for the good of the whole? After all, in a communal arrangement the rights and welfare of the individual must be subordinate to the rights and welfare of the group. This is the emphasis on "the whole rather than the individual" that the Moonie lecturer referred to, and it is the basic tenet of such forms of social order. Or will dissenters be recognized as aberrations within the unified body and thus isolated and confined for their own good and protection?

(These are each different ways of saying, (1) imprisoned as political prisoners; and, (2) confined as insane. Both practices are common under totalitarian governments and the current examples of communist regimes. What is the recourse when persuasion fails to implement the desired order? Only force, even if that force is only forcible restraint.)

The implication that true socialism—life according to the Divine Principle—is the same as the Kingdom of God on earth is fraught with dangerous repercussions! It seems to be a declaration of the Unification Church's intention to subvert our religious, cultural, and social order and replace it with a system that would abrogate individual freedom and the obligation to exercise our free wills in accordance with the teachings of Christ.

While the Moonies are probably not part of some communist plot to subvert the youth of America, their ideology is not compatible with our political system.

This nation was founded on the principle that the rights of individuals and minorities must be respected, even as the will of the majority rules. That is why separation of church and state is so essential to our system. We have laws

(Continued on Page 16)



SUNDAY, JUNE 4

Scripture Reading—Psalm 103:11

HEAVEN, THE BELIEVER'S HOMELAND!

I had dropped in upon an old friend of my boyfriend days. She was one of God's own saints. Rich in experience, she was ripe for the coming glory. She had gone so far in life's pilgrimage that her mind was slightly beclouded, and her memory affected. As I rose to go home she arose also and said, "I want to go home." "But Mother," said her daughter, "you are home now." At that she looked at bit dazed. Then looking at me with a tender smile she said with a profound touch of pathos in her voice—"I want to go home before it gets dark."

I opened the door and started homeward. The twilight sky was still aglow with the vanishing glory of the sunset. Beyond it lay the glory of the Father's House. My soul was tingling with the spiritual message my dear friend's words had brought me. What an unspeakable blessing for God's children to reach home before it gets dark! Before the darkness of broken body and failing health; of dimmed senses and clouded faculties; of physical suffering and infirmities; of vanished faces, voices, and fellowships—before all these come, how blessed it is to reach home before it gets dark.

PRAYER THOUGHT

As a youngster, weren't you always ready to return home before dark? Didn't you get scared? We should remember that the Saviour is with us all the way.

MONDAY, JUNE 5

Scripture Reading—Psalm 37:3

THE CHIMES

A traveler had heard so much of the wonderful chimes of St. Nicholas in Amsterdam, that one day he went up into the tower of the church to hear them. There he found a man hard at work before an immense keyboard, thumping and pounding the keys with his hands encased in wooden gloves.

The traveler was almost deafened by the rattle of the blows on the keys and the harsh discordant clangor of the bells above his head, and hurried away wondering why people talked so much of the beautiful chimes of St. Nicholas.

The next day at the same hour he was in a distant part of the city sightseeing, when suddenly the air was filled with the mellow music of marvelously clear and full-toned bells.

"We hear the chimes of St. Nicholas," said the guide in answer to his question, and the man wondered no longer why travelers spoke enthusiastically of their melody. But he thought of the man in the tower, and wondered if he ever knew how beautiful his hard work became in the distance.

If in gloomy moments the thought ever comes to you that your life is shut up to a narrow round of hard work which has in it no beauty or sweetness for you or anyone else, let the story of the chimes teach you better.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What a wonderful blessing the sound of music can bring forth! What a glad ring! What a way to praise the Lord!

TUESDAY, JUNE 6

Scripture Reading—Psalm 68:11

READING THE BIBLE

The great effective instrument of the Holy Spirit by which the truth is authoritatively taught is the inspired Word of God. Satan is gaining victories by holding men back from a loving, searching study of the Bible.

My own daily life is as full as that of any man I know, but I found long since that as I allowed the pressure of professional and other engagements to fill in every moment between rising and going to bed, the spirit would surely starve; so I made a rule, which I have since stuck to in spite of many temptations, not to read or study anything but my Bible after the evening meal, and never to read any other book but the Bible on Sunday.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible has many stories which tell us many things. There are stories of love and compassion. What greater book can one have in the world, than the Bible!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Scripture Reading—Matthew 8:8

MY BIBLE AND I

We've traveled together, my Bible and I,
Through all kinds of weather, with smile or with sigh,
In sorrow or sunshine, in tempest or calm,
Thy friendship unchanging, my lamp and my psalm.

We've traveled together, my Bible and I.
When life had grown weary, and death even was nigh,
But all through the darkness, of mist or of wrong
I found there a solace, a prayer and a song.

So now who shall part us, my Bible and I,
Shall "isms" or "schisms" or "new lights" who try?
Shall shadow for substance, or stone for good bread,
Supplant thy sound wisdom, give folly instead?

Ah! no, my dear Bible, exponent of light!
Thou sword of the Spirit, put error to flight!
And still through life's journey, until my last sigh,
We'll travel together, my Bible and I.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What greater book in the world to have than the Bible? You can find the Light of your life just by reading God's Word.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 8:3

HOW DO YOU READ YOUR BIBLE

A little boy who was in the habit of attending the Gospel preaching every Lord's Day evening was unable to go one evening, so he stayed at home and read his Bible.

His mother was upstairs attending to the little ones and did not know what her boy was doing, but noticing how quiet he was, and thinking perhaps he was up to some mischief—as little boys often are when they are quiet—she called downstairs, "What are you doing, Henry?" The dear lad replied, "I am watching Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead." What a beautiful answer. He was of course reading the 11th Chapter of John, and it was all very real to him. Do you read your Bible like this?

PRAYER THOUGHT

There are such interesting stories in the Bible that we can sit for hours just being entertained and feeding on God's Word. What a great way to be fed!

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 9:9

"YES, GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU"

Years ago when we appointed the first two single girls to pioneer mission work where it was a "man's job," and an experienced missionary objected, saying that no missionary had ever gone to that dangerous area before, I turned to the girls in deep concern and said, "Perhaps you had better not go." I shall never forget the surprised expression on their faces as they replied with a question that put me on the spot, "Won't God take care of us?" For me to have answered "No" would have knocked the props out from under our whole movement. We had nothing to stand on for the solution of the impossible problems that lay ahead of us except God's miraculous power. An affirmative answer meant that the girls could go in spite of the dangers. I looked at the expression of wounded faith upon the faces of those young girls and, replied, "Yes, God will take care of you." They went, and God protected them. Today the Mazateca Indians have the Word because Eunice Poke and Florence Hansen (now Mrs. George Cowan) dared to trust God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Trusting in God can change a person's life entirely. We should always trust in the Lord.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 13:11

A CHILD'S CONVERSION

A little girl, when she was asked by the church committee as to her knowledge of Jesus Christ and asked to recite her experience, said, "I do not know if I have any 'experience.' All I know is that Jesus said, "Come unto Me,' and I came, and He said, 'I will give you rest,' and He gave me rest." One of the older men said: "But you don't seem to know much about the Slough of Despond, my dear." She dropped a curtsey and said: "Please, sir, I did not come that way."

PRAYER THOUGHT

There is rest with the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will give it to you.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

PEOPLE'S CHAPEL EXPERIENCES REVIVAL

April 16, 1978, was the beginning of startling events that changed the lives of many people and gave them the beginning of a new way of life. Their revival began on this night at People's Chapel Church, Elm City.

The services began each night with the members assembling in the prayer rooms for prayer and blessings. The Lord, guided by the Holy Spirit, moved in the hearts of Pastor Delmas Brown and guest speaker, the Rev. Rudy Owens, as they preached His Word to the congregation.

Many stepped out on faith and fell upon their knees at the altar. Those who came seeking and expecting blessings witnessed the awakening of many spiritual blessings. God filled the hearts of many within the church during the special prayers at the close of each service.

A small crippled child who could not walk alone was brought to the Lord for healing. As many wept and prayed for this child, the power of God began working a miracle within her body, and her legs received strength. That night she walked out of church with the help of God. She may not be able to walk in an upright position, but that she can walk is a gift from God.

The things that are impossible with men are possible with God. Instead of experiencing what so many call "religion," we experienced a personal relationship with God that every born-again believer should experience.

TRUE TO CHRIST I'LL BE

True to Christ I'll be
Through all eternity,
He's my Savior, He's my guide,
He is always by my side;

I love Him more each day,
I'll serve Him all the way;
Yes, true to Christ I'll always be
Through all eternity.

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"

mission work . . .

at home and abroad.

Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
Director—Treasurer
P. O. Box 979
Goldsboro, N. C. 2753

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
Fayetteville, N. C. 28305

GRADUATION EXERCISES CONDUCTED IN CHURCH IN PIEDRAS NEGRAS

In January, 1975, our Bible Institute in Quemado, Texas, reorganized its study program. We outlined a three-year course of study for the pastors attending the Institute sessions. In January, 1978, the pastors concluded the program of study.

On February 24, 1978, in the Emanuel El Salvador Free Will Baptist Church in Piedras Negras, Mexico, the first graduation service of the Bible Institute was conducted. The service was conducted in Mexico rather than at the Bible Institute because this would provide more people the opportunity to attend, as the vast majority of the people do not have crossing cards and are not able to come to the United States.



The Rev. J. E. Timmons

The Rev. Antonio Escobar, speaking as the class representative, spoke briefly, mentioning their appreciation for the opportunity to study and prepare for the ministry. The Rev. J. E. Timmons delivered the graduation message and afterwards diplomas were presented by the Rev. Vance Link.



The Rev. Vance Link and the Rev. Antonio Escobar

Those receiving diplomas were: the Revs. Antonio Escobar, German Rodriquez, Antonio Lopez, Domitilo Mendez, Filemon Aguero Hernandez, Israel Gonzalez Gaitan, and Isaias Lugo R.

In the photos, Brother Timmons is seen as he delivers a very challenging message and Brother Link as he presents Brother Escobar with his diploma.

NEW MISSION IN RALEIGH

On April 30th, 1978, Agape Mission of Raleigh, North Carolina, held its first service. Agape is Greek for sacrificial love, which has been exemplified by the pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Hall, and his wife, Sue, and friends from the mother church, Everett Chapel of Clayton, all of whom worked on renovating the building during their spare time. Also, Taylor Hill took his young people from the Haymount Mission in Fayetteville to Raleigh on Saturday, April 29, to help distribute flyers in the community to announce the new mission.



The Rev. Ronnie Hall

Ronnie and Sue have high hopes for the future. Mission work is not new to them, for they have done a lot of supply work for the State Home Mission Department. Everett Chapel church and their pastor, the Rev. Billy Yawn, are continuing to assist the new work. For example, they have loaned Agape Mission folding chairs until they can purchase their own, and the Everett Chapel Sunday school classes are taking turns going to Raleigh to be in their Sunday morning services until the community people begin to attend. It is impossible to express the value of a really dedicated mother church to a new mission.



Agape Mission

The mission is located at 1701 Glen Eden Drive. The directions are as follows: As you approach the state fairgrounds from Raleigh, turn right and go approximately two miles to a store on the right. Turn right and Glen Eden will be just inside the city limits.

If our readers know of any people in the Raleigh area who might be interested in taking part in the new work, please contact the pastor, Rev. Ronnie Hall, 422

Barbour Street, Clayton, North Carolina 27520, phone 553-6070; or Taylor Hill, Director of State Home Missions, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305, phone 485-3980; or Dean Kennedy, Field Promoter, Pink Hill, North Carolina 28572, phone 568-3732.

NEWS NOTES

Thirty Years of Perfect Attendance



H. H. Pollard

Mr. H. H. Pollard has attended Sunday school at Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Raleigh, for thirty years without missing a Sunday. Recently he received his addition to his pin.

C. F. Bowen Resigns Stoney Creek



Rev. C. F. Bowen

The Rev. C. F. Bowen has resigned the pastorate of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina, effective the first Sunday in August of this year.

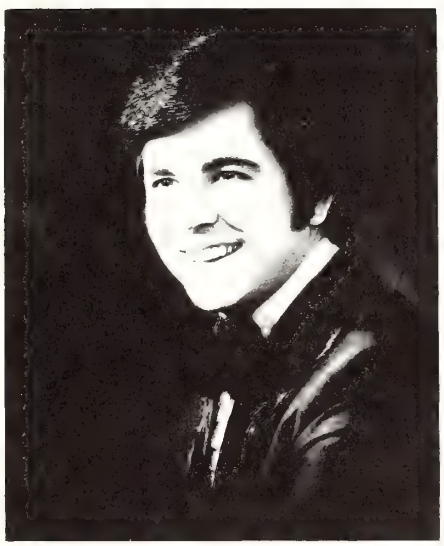
After that date he will be available as a supply pastor for churches needing his services. He will also be available for revivals.

Mr. Bowen's present address is Route 2, Box 489, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530. His phone number is 734-9310 or 735-3916. His later address will be posted in this paper.

Homecoming at Holly Springs Church

Homecoming will be observed at Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly,m Sunday, June 4. Services for the day will begin at 10 with Sunday school, morning worship service will be held at 11. Picnic lunch will be served at 12. Afternoon services will include memorial services and special singing. The pastor, the Rev. Royster Martin, and the church membership extend a cordial invitation to all former members and pastors.

Johnny Cook At Wilson Church



Johnny Cook

Mr. Johnny Cook, former tenor with the Happy Goodman Family, will be in concert Saturday night, June 3, at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson. The church is located on the corner of Granger and Barnhill Streets. The services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. Clyde W. Cox, extends an invitation to all to come for this service.

Mother's Day at Robert's Grove Church

On May 14th, ''Mother's Day'' was observed at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church. The AFCs had written about a mother, using their own language. The letters were graded by a teacher as to the mother that would be chosen ''Mother of the Year.'' Each child read his own letter and the mother he chose came forward and was presented a red rose. Some chose to write about their own mothers, while others chose different leaders of the church. Jeff Tew had written about Mrs. Sulie Spell and she was chosen ''Mother of the Year.'' Mrs. Spell was presented a half dozen red roses and a plaque to be placed in the church. Jeff's letter reads as follows:

> ''Christian mothers are something very special. They're always in place when needed.
>
> ''The mother in my church whom I admire a lot is a great worker. She organized the AFCs about twenty-four years ago. She worked with the different youth organizations for several years. This mother is an assistant Sunday school teacher, church clerk, publicity chairman, and has held several offices in the woman's auxiliary. She nas helped our softball teams raise money with her hard work.
>
> ''On several occasions when I was sick, she has brought me gifts which I enjoyed very much. She is never too busy to help someone if she is needed. Ladies like this in a church really make it grow and be outstanding. The lady that I admire is Mrs. Sulie Spell.''

The YFAs, AFCs, and Cherubs then presented music which was enjoyed by everyone. Needless to say this was an impressive ceremony.

MOC

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE MARSHALS NAMED



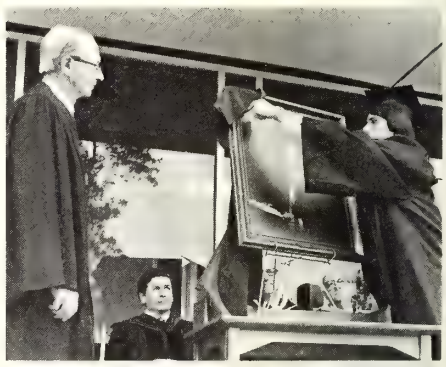
Mount Olive College freshmen named as Marshals at the 1978 Graduation Ceremonies held on campus recently are from left, Kathy Laine Koonce from Richlands, Rose Marie Rand, also of Richlands, Mrs. Johanna Cook Smith of Mount Olive, Selena Gray Jordan from Mount Olive, Mrs. Pamela Grady Beaman from Mount Olive, Pamela Sue Johnson of Calvary Church in Wilson, and Kenneth David Hines from Winterville Free Will Baptist Church.

AWARD WINNERS



Mount Olive College students receiving awards at the Graduation program are from left, Mrs. Judy Humbles Bass from Mount Olive and Marie Anita Whitford from New Haven Church in Vanceboro tied for the Martin Award, presented to the highest academic average for a graduate (both had 4.0); Lynwood Stewart from Cove City for the Jordan Award, presented to the student who by vote of the student body most exemplified the qualities of good citizenship; and Kathy L. Koonce of Richlands and Rose Marie Rand of Mount Olive who tied for the Perret Award prsented to the top freshmen with the highest academic average (both have 4.0).

PORTRAIT UNVEILED



Mount Olive College 1977-78 Student Government President, Lynwood Stewart, right, unveils a portrait of College President, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, seated left, that was presented at Mount Olive Commencement Exercises. Chairman of the College Board of Trustees, James B. Hunt Sr., standing right, accepted the gift on behalf of Dr. Raper. The color portrait was given by the student body.

250TH ANNIVERSARY TELECAST

The 250th Anniversary Celebration of the Free Will Baptist Church held last November, 1977, on the Mount Olive College campus will be telecast on Wilson Christian Broadcasting Cable television, Channel 6, on Sunday, June 4, at 4 p. m.

All Free Will Baptists and friends are encouraged to watch this part of history in the making.

DISTINGUISHED MINISTER ENDORSES EDITORIAL STAND

Dear Tommy:

Let me commend you most earnestly for the stand you have taken on the Unification Church and its leader, Mr. Moon. Your statements were most enlightening and forthright in their accuracy.

It is distressing that anyone who knows the truth about this religious leader would defend him in any manner. Anyone who has read the papers, watched television, and listened to the radio about Moon and his organization will know that something terribly wrong is associated with him and his movement.

I just wish the good professor at Louisburg College had been at my church sometime ago and listened to the testimony of parents who had fortunately been successful in extricating their young people from this satanic religious organization. They suffered their own hell with all its anguish and agony; and the best part of it all was that once these young people were freed, they turned against Moon and what he represents. Thank God for that.

You are to be commended for what you have done and need apologize to no one, not to the apparently misguided professor, or to Moon, or to anyone else. Thank God for your boldness in giving the truth. I have a greater respect for the **Free Will Baptist** than ever before.

Yours sincerely,
C. F. Bowen

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY INC. TREASURER'S REPORT FOR APRIL, 1978

Balance Brought Forward April 1, 1978			$ 2,906.15
Receipts			
Cape Fear District			
Hopewell	$ 48.23		
Palmer Memorial	46.80	$ 95.03	
Central District			
Central Conference Youth Fellowship	$2,100.00		
Edgewood	30.00		
Friendship Sunday School	25.00		
Hickory Grove	250.00		
Reedy Branch	456.14		
Sunday School	21.11	$2,882.25	
Pee Dee District			
Beaverdam Auxiliary	$ 50.00	$ 50.00	
Eastern District			
Crab Point	$ 15.00		
Pearsall's Chapel	25.00		
Saint Mary's	137.50	$ 177.50	
Western District			
Friendship Auxiliary	$ 25.00		
Marsh Swamp			
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt	50.00		
Milbournie	23.00		
Pleasant Grove	1,151.22		
Sherron Acres	100.00		
Unity, Durham	25.00		
Wilson, First			
Mr. and Mrs. John Melancon	20.00	$1,394.22	
Others:			
N. C. State Youth Convention	$ 500.00		
Interest Accrued on Savings	659.83		
State League Convention	669.76		
Douglas Skinner, Phone Calls	2.97	$1,832.56	
Total Receipts			$ 6,431.5(
Total for Which to Account			$ 9,337.7
Disbursements			
Operational Expenses	$ 344.92		
Douglas Skinner, Salary	800.00		
Douglas Skinner, Social Security	220.00		
Transfer of Funds to Main Building Fund	4,654.60		
Transfer of Funds to General Savings	649.46		
Transfer of Accrued Interest to Savings Account	659.83		
Total Disbursements			$ 7,328.8
Balance on Hand May 1, 1978			$ 2,008.9
EARMARKED FUNDS			
Main Building Fund			$58,601.(
General Savings			3,319.9
General Fund			2,008.9
Total in Bank			$63,929.9

Respectfully submitte(
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasur(
Route
Sims, North Carolina 278(

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For June 11

RESOLVING CONFLICT

Lesson Text: Acts 15:1, 2, 22-31

Memory Verse: Romans 10:12

I. INTRODUCTION

From its very beginning the church has been confronted with two types of problems—those that have arisen from opposition from without and those caused by defections from within. The exterior troubles have been overt and physical persecution, or they have consisted of ridicule, scorn, and intellectual assaults. The internal difficulties have been caused by moral and ethical failures in the lives of Christians—hypocrisy, sexual sin, drunkenness, dishonesty, and the like. The other type of internal crisis has arisen from the twisting or distortion of the message the church has for the world. As Paul so clearly said in his Galatian letter, "There be some that . . . would pervert the gospel of Christ" (1:7).

Our lesson today deals with the way the church handled a major problem that arose in its teaching about salvation. All who had accepted Jesus as Messiah and Lord on the Day of Pentecost, when the church was established, had been Jews. The question that arose in time was whether in order to be saved by Jesus one had to become a Jew. This was earnestly taught by some within the Christian community, and it created problems as to the central message the Christians presented to the world.

This is only the first of many crises that have arisen about the content of the church's presentation to men. Nothing is more important to the church and to the world than that God's truth for salvation be spoken. How the truth may be ascertained and guarded is something we may learn from this lesson. Of course, the specific problems and challenges to authentic Christian proclamation vary, but certain general principles should emerge that will guide us.—**The Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The church had hardly emerged from its infancy before it found its enemies. Satan hated Jesus, His apostles and disciples, and His church. He immediately set up serious opposition against all of them, and his infamous efforts have never ceased.

B. It was expected that the Early Church would have outside enemies, persons who opposed it because they wanted no part of it; but Satan was not content to trouble the church from without. His shrewdest tactic was to cause internal conflict among those who professed to love Jesus Christ. As it was then, so it still is today: the church has often failed to meet the challenge of the world because it has been beset with misunderstandings, heresies, and unfaithfulness within its own ranks. However, though torn by strife and conflicts through the centuries, it has survived as no other institution could have under similiar circumstances.

C. The secret of the church's success, though spotted and tainted, was and still is the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of many. These have remained true, trustworthy, and faithful.

D. Acts 15 records the first serious intimation of the great controversy that brought conflict into the apostolic church. The controversy centered in the question of whether Christians, both Jews and Gentiles, should be circumcised after the manner of Moses' law. Great leaders such as Paul, Peter, and Barnabas helped to resolve this conflict.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Our study today involves the Jerusalem Council, which was held in the church at Jerusalem in A.D. 50. The issue involved was whether a man can be saved by faith in Christ or if he must keep the law. The Council decided that men could be saved by faith in Christ. This is still true.

B. At the Jerusalem Council, there were godly men on both sides of the issues. Each side had special reasons for believing as they did, but they were still willing to discuss the matter, and each side was seeking the will of God. Note the kindness shown for those whose point did not prevail.

C. Why are some persons unwilling to discuss their disagreements with others? It may be that they lack Christian humility. They may feel that they cannot be wrong and, therefore, there is nothing to discuss. It may be that they are inwardly afraid that they do not have the truth on their side. Sometimes, those on the other side have so intimidated them that they are afraid to face those with whom they disagree. Lay all of these aside—we all should have enough Christian humility to discuss our disagreements with those with whom we disagree.

D. What should a church do if its pastor preaches a doctrine that is not in accord with the doctrines of the church? First, the deacons should talk with him. They might have misunderstood. If he persists, they should make a written complaint to the Ordaining Council of their Conference. Before a church does this there are two things to remember: the charge must be in writing and the church must be willing to face the accused before the Ordaining Council.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Taking Offense—The Book of Judges

relates the story of Gideon's pursuit of the routed army of the Midianites, chasing them across the fords of the Jordan. Under God's leadership, Gideon failed to ask the help of the Ephraimites on the other side of the Jordan. When Gideon and his men returned, instead of congratulating him on his great victory, the men of Ephraim chided him, and said, ". . . Why hast thou served us thus, that thou callest us not, when thou wentest to fight the Midianites" (Judges 8:1).

Gideon was a man of great self control and knew the wisdom of "A soft answer turneth away wrath: . . ." (Proverbs 15:1). So he said to the men of Ephraim, "What have I done now in comparison to you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the vintage of Abiezer" In other words, "The part you have played in this campaign is just as important as the part that I have played."

This is an old story with an up-to-date moral. There are always those who are "hurt" if they are not called on for everything. Blessed are those who learn how to deal with these people.

–The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

RAY WILLIAMSON ORDAINED



Ray Williamson

Ray Williamson was ordained by the Central Conference Ordaining Council on May 11, 1978, at the Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Grantsboro, North Carolina. He is presently serving as pastor of the Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church and resides in the church parsonage, address: Route 1, Box 3, Grantsboro. Mr. Williamson is a member of the Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church near Ayden (Central Conference).

Ray is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin C. Williamson of Tarboro, and is married to the former Evelyn Alford also of Tarboro. Ray and Evelyn have one son, Brad, age two.

Ray is a graduate of North Carolina State University, and is furthering his religious training at Mount Olive College.

The members of the Central Conference Ordaining Council feel that Ray will be a great asset to our denomination.

The Rev. Jack Mayo, Secretary
Central Conference Ordaining Council

AWARDED MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE

Calvin R. Mercer Jr., a member of Cabin Free Will Baptist Church near Beulaville, has completed requirements for the Master of Divinity degree, and graduated from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, May 12.

Calvin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Mercer Sr. of Beulaville. He is a graduate of East Duplin High School and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is married to the former Marilyn Miller of Beulaville.

ACTIVE FOR GOD?

by Marvin Barnett
Pantego, North Carolina

Why does God want His people to be active? Because He is active. He has done so much for us. Jesus sets us an example. He went about doing good.

In John 5:17 he said, "My Father worketh hitherto and I work." When he was twelve years old, Jesus said to his mother, "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business"?

Are we about the Father's business? Or are we in business with the Devil? God wants us to be active in doing good, not evil. To be active in doing good is a source of joy and promotes production and growth.

Lord, help us to be busy in Thy service.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Frank Brown will be available for pastoral services after June 9, 1978. He can be contacted by writing P. O. Box 347, Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586; or phone 244-0027. He is presently serving Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro.

Coming Events . . .

June 5--Revision Committee of Faith and Discipline will meet at the Press, 10 A. M.

June 12--Summer School Sesson A begins at Mount Olive College. Applications are being accepted now.

June 19-23--Woman's Conference, Camp Vandemere

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Paul Grubbs wishes to announce his new address: The Rev. Paul C. Grubbs, Box 106, Lowland, N.C. 28552; phone, 745-3216.

ATTEND THE FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE IN YOUR CHURCH

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT

The Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary has furnished the lounge area at Camp Vandemere and it is beautiful. You will hardly believe the difference when you see it. It is very comfortable, including four or five rocking chairs.

We think, however, there is an urgent need for a piano in this area, so the kitchen and dining area will not be disturbed while meals are being prepared.

If any one knows of a good used piano at a reasonable price, or has one they wish to donate, please contact Mrs. John W. Taylor, Route 1, Box 109, Deep Run, North Carolina 28535.

Camp Vandemere is an Eastern District project and will only be what we make it. It has great potential.

I cannot look at the mountains at Cragmont or the water at Camp Vandemere and not feel the closeness of God.

Many people have come to know Christ as their Saviour at Cragmont, and many decisions for committed lives have been made there. As a mother, I thank God for Cragmont.

I hope to see the day when Camp Vandemere will also be known as a soul-winning, Bible-teaching Camp—a lighthouse sending out the gospel to a lost and dying world, through all who enter therein.

Please pray for all of our denominational enterprises to this end.

Camp Vandemere and Cragmont are not in competition. I love them both and praise the Lord for both of them and for all of our mission fields and missionaries.

Mrs. Adaline Gray
Eastern District Missions Chairman



NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION TREASURER'S REPORT

End of Fourth Quarter, April 30, 1978

Balance in Bank January 31, 1978			$ 3,903.98
Receipts			
General Fund:			
Promotional (CSF)	$116.03		
Life Award Fees	15.00		
Contributions	68.50		
Per Capita Dues	653.65		
Interest	14.99	$ 868.17	
Denominational Enterprises		12,942.95	
Total Receipts			13,811.12
Total for Which to Account			$17,715.10
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		$ 755.85	
Denominational Enterprises		12,942.95	
Total Disbursed			13,698.80
Balance in Bank, April 30, 1978			$ 4,016.30

Summary of Bank Account Balances

General Fund	$ 3,204.68	
Interest	811.62	$ 4,016.30
Branch Banking and Trust Company (checking)	1,016.30	
Church Finance Association (savings)	3,000.00	$ 4,016.30

Denominational Enterprises Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions)		$1,786.00	$ 1,786.00
Foreign Missions (General)		325.63	325.63
Designated:			
Mexico	135.00		
Fred Baker	53.90		
Wayne King Baby Fund	228.30	417.20	417.20
State Project Equally Divided Among Mrs. Link, Mrs. King,			

and Mrs. Timmons	1,577.58		
The Fred Bakers	125.00	1,682.58	1,682.58
Central Conference Missions		168.09	168.09
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	235.42		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	56.50		
State Project	1,079.35		
Books	15.00		
Eagles Nest	10.00	1,396.27	1,396.27
Free Will Baptist Children's Home:			
General Fund	271.50		
Clothing	50.00		
Blankets and Quilts	70.00		
Allowance	15.00		
Playground Equipment	20.00		
Child Support	495.00		
Child's Week at Cragmont	250.00		
State Project	1,175.42	2,346.92	2,346.92
Superannuation:			
General Fund	210.64		
Adopted Widow	12.00	222.64	222.64
Cragmont Assembly:			
Building Fund		3,134.84	3,134.84
Retirement Homes, Inc.		323.50	323.50
Life Membership Fees (Children's Home)		60.00	60.00
Anna Phillips Loan Fund		35.00	35.00
*Christian Service fund			
Missions	232.06		
Mount Olive College	232.06		
Children's Home	174.05		
Cragmont	174.05		
Superannuation	116.03		
Retirement Homes	116.03	1,044.28	1,044.28
Totals		$12,942.95	$12,942.95

*10 percent retained for promotional (see receipts $116.03)

Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, Treasurer

A LETTER

Dear Auxiliary Members,

The 1978 session of Woman's Auxiliary of the General Conference will convene with the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, North Carolina, Wayne County, Route 2, one mile west of Pikeville on rural road 1002.

Remember:

1. **Youth Night**—Monday, June 26, 7:30 p. m. Registration at 7 p. m. **Come** and **see** and **hear** our many talented young people compete in the Bible Bowl Quiz; as well as a special program in song by the Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist young people from Wilson, North Carolina.

2. **Woman's Conference**—Tuesday, June 27, 10 a. m. Registration at 9:30. The theme will be "The Scarlet Thread". Scripture: Joshua 2:18, 6:22, 23. The speaker will be Mrs. Addie Starnes from Morehead, City, North Carolina. Special music will feature the "Covenant Trio" some former students of Mount Olive College, and the Rev. and Mrs. Arnold Price of Dunn, North Carolina.

3. **Motels**—The nearest are Goldsboro and Smithfield, North Carolina.

4. **Lunch**—Catered.

5. **Mission Fund**—Continue to give over and above the $5 registration fee in order that we might reach others for Christ and His work. Remember, mileage, postage, prizes, and everything have greatly increased in price.

If you need a spiritual refreshing and a blessing, then plan to attend this conference. Please pray for our meeting and may God Bless You.

In His Service,
Margaret Ard, President

DO NOT PRAY FOR EASY LIVES, PRAY TO BE STRONG MEN.

LAND OF THE FREE. . .THANK GOD

(Continued from Page 5)

that limit our government, and the majority, to keep them from burying the rights and privileges of the individual and the minority.

Otherwise there is no freedom to be Methodist or Roman Catholic or Jewish or Free Will Baptist. Otherwise there would only be worship at the altar of the majority, the state. Personal relationships with God and individual conscience would be dangerous abberations, so would private Scripture reading and interpretation. All would be subordinate to the welfare of the state and each would have to believe what would be to the benefit of the whole.

The threat of the Moonies is that they would impose their Divine Principle on the political order, rather than offer it as a guide for the individuals who function within that order. In His wisdom, God has endowed us with free wills. In His love, He has blessed us with His Son, the Perfect Example, to show us how to exercise those wills for His glory and our salvation. We are threatened with an ideology that would negate free will as a viable attribute and substitute institutionalized goodness.

As frightening as the threat of that idealogy is, I, for one, am thankful that God remains with us as we seek **His** divine guidance. Surely that is all we need.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Layman's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will meet June 5, 1978 at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, county road 1239, approximately 4 miles south of Walstonburg, Greene County, at 8 p. m.

All laymen are urged to attend regardless of whether you have an active league in your church.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: Is it possible that ill people may be healed without the use of medicine?

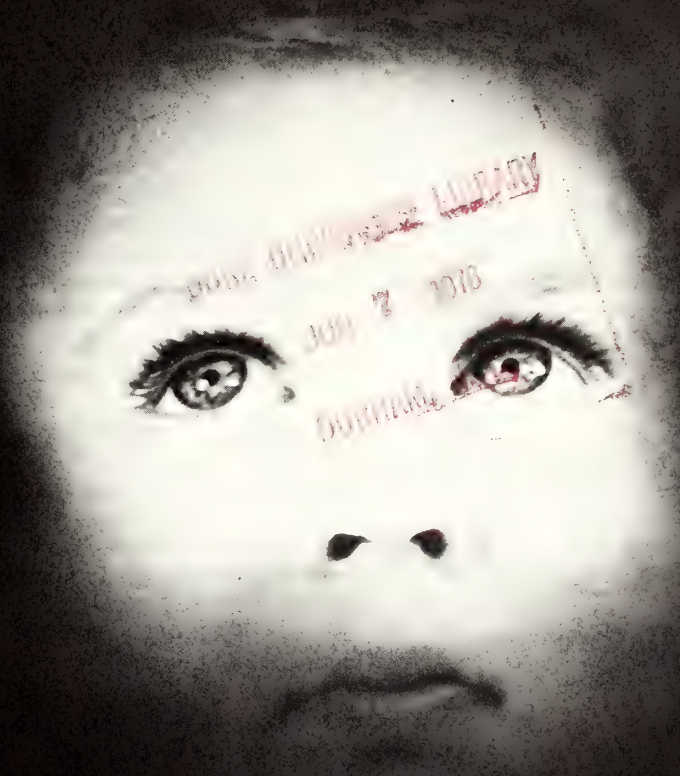
Answer: Yes, I think so; however, the Bible seems to teach that both known remedies and prayer may be used. There is no reasonable doubt that much prayer and many remedies were used in the Apostle Paul's day to cure certain Christians who were ill. Some were healed and some were given grace to endure the pain while there were those who succumbed to the disease. Paul himself suffered some sort of malady that God did not see fit to remove or heal him of: "And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities that the power of Christ may rest upon me" (2 Corinthians 12:7-9).

Again we read in the New Testament: "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let him pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up: and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:13-16).

George H. Sandison gives a lengthy discussion on a similar question as follows, I think, worthy of our prayerful attention in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered.** He recognizes the place of medicine in the treatment of those who are ill, but he is cognizant too of the **power of prayer**. Note: "We have stated on a number of occasions that we believe the prayerful use of medicine to be right and Scriptural. Isaiah put a fig poultice on King Hezekiah's boils. The bacteriological theory of disease has made the use of medicine all the more reasonable. We have found that many diseases are simply attacks made upon the bodily tissues by living organisms, quite like minute animals. It is no more wrong to attack these diminutive animals with poison than it would be to attack, with club or gun, a mad dog who would threaten one's wife or child. Medicines produce a chemical reaction in the body which has curative or nutritive value; indeed, many medicines are food, and to take them is just like regulating one's diet to meet physical conditions.

Many skillful physicians are firm believers in prayer, and pray for the success of their treatment. God gives wisdom and skill to combat disease, and after we have availed ourselves of all these means we should ask His blessing upon them. When, however, we speak of persons divinely healed being sufferers from functional and not organic disease, we do not restrict divine power. We have no doubt of God's being able to heal organic disease. We believe, however, that some of the cures attributed to divine healing are really effected by other means. We can understand that if a man has all the organs of his body in a healthy condition, but some of them not performing their functions, he may be cured by a mental process. If he believes thoroughly and sincerely that God will cure him in answer to prayer, his faith will save him. It may give him an impulse which will start the sluggish organs into activity. A sudden fright will sometimes do the same thing. This is not divine healing, but it is faith healing, and it explains the cure of many of the people who think that God has healed them. There are other cases, however, which cannot be explained in that way."

THE UNBORN CHILD— PERSON OR THING?



Abortion: Murder or Not?

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

JUNE 7, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial . . .

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JUNE 7, 1978

Volume 93 Number 23

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

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ABORTION: MURDER OR NOT?

Take it out of the germ-infested backrooms and the hands of *butchers* and put it in the sterile conditions of a hospital room or clinic and the hands of *skilled doctors*! Thus a preponderance of the pro-abortion forces verbalize their reasons for the legalization of the criminal expulsion of a human fetus. Their appeal is addressed to health factors, more humane methods of terminating pregnancies (wanted or unwanted), and the cessation of backstreet practicing of medicine.

While abortion is certainly a *legal issue* (and is, at the time of this writing, illegal in most states), it is more a *moral issue*. Despite those claimants who espouse that an unborn child is not really a living person until he *breathes on his own*, the majority of medical doctors do not agree. And the American Medical Association has gone on record denouncing the practice of abortion in so-called "Abortion Mills," where a contingent of doctors have grouped together and even solicit "patrons." While no one could make a blanket statement as it regards the feeling of all doctors on the subject of abortion, it is strongly suggested that the majority frown upon the permissiveness that abounds in some sections of the country. Not only for medical reasons, either!

We have learned that a number of those doctors who would consider performing abortions are reluctant to abort a fetus after the 12-week period, because, in the words of one physicians's assistant, "After that time, the fetus looks too much like a 'baby' to suit most people." The problem with this description is that a fetus becomes a baby in the "eyes of the beholder"—and human eyes don't see as God sees. This is one point where the pro-abortionists insist that moralists are too fanatical.

Fanatical or not, Dr. J. C. Willke, internationally-known author-medical doctor-lecturer, states that at *12 weeks* (three months), *all vital organs and systems are working*, though admittedly there are so many variables involved that few fetuses can breathe (outside the womb) without aid even at the *five-month period*. There have been cases, nonetheless, where babies have been delivered at six months and have lived without mechanical life support systems.

Actually, whether the infant lives or dies is not the real concern. The concern is whether the organism in the womb is a *thing* or a *person*—and whether society, in Hitler-like dictation, may soon decide who (or what) *will* or *will not* live. As it regards "thing," we have now been advised by noted scientists that the fetus is certainly more. To wit: During the past decade, *hypotheses* about early human development have now been proven to be *facts*. Scientists tell us that the male sperm contributes 50 percent and the female egg contributes 50 percent of the new life: the sperm containing the genetic code of the father, and the egg containing the genetic code of the mother.

At fertilization (joining of the sperm and egg), a new being is then and there created—*at conception*—at which time 23 chromosones from the sperm join 23 from the ovum (egg). *And we Christians believe the soul is brought into existence at that time*. "Never before in the history of the world nor ever again will a being identical to this one exist," says Dr. Willke. The fetus, then, is certainly *more than a part of the mother*, and should not be treated like an appendix to be removed at will!

I remember watching with interest, but with a little pang of conscience, a demonstration in which a university professor broke into the shells of several chicken eggs which had been incubated to various stages of development. As he removed the unhatched chicks, he directed our attention to the beating of

(Continued on Page 15)

PARSONAGE LIFE:

submitted by DeW. Eakes

THE WIFE'S VIEWPOINT

by Beverly Croskery

(Continued from Last Week)

To Improve Clergy Life

THE final area of the questionnaire was a list of 12 items concerning what would improve the lot of clergy families in general. Some wives checked all 12; many checked at least half. The ranking was as follows: (1) higher salaries, (2) improved public understanding of the ministry, (3) opportunities for continuing education, (4) counseling for women who are or will become clergy wives, (5) professional standards set and maintained, (6) improved seminary training, (7) written contracts with local congregations, (8) financial planning for clergy families, (9) greater support from the denomination, (10) opportunities for contact with other clergy of different backgrounds, (11) greater freedom within the denomination, (12) exposing charlatans to the public.

This area elicited a number of additional comments. Some worthy of note:

"Counseling for men who have unrealistic and idealistic expectations of their wives in ministers' wives' role."

"Opportunity to be away from work at least once a year with the family."

"The church should provide a car for the pastor. I have to wait for a busy husband to find time for me to have the car."

"Wives need to be included in continuing education too . . . perhaps the church or denomination could provide."

"Contracts which spell out maximum hours minister is expected to work per week (emergencies excepted), e.g., 50 hours per week."

"I am not an unpaid pastor's assistant. I do take an active part in the church, but no more than if my husband were in another occupation."

"As the years passed, the demands between church and home became overwhelming for my husband. I became increasingly resentful of the 70-80 hour week he spent at the church . . . . I have a genuine love for people, but the church has taken so much of my husband's time, efforts and sanity that it has been detrimental to our home, our marriage, and to us as individuals. . . . I would never again choose to marry a clergyman."

"A seminary degree should be a professional doctorate like M.D.s or lawyers . . . with a similar intern period. Congregations should be made aware of the benefits of continuing education. Continuing education should be written into the contract. It is important to structure channels of communication between pastor and people. Why not establish a clergy credit union? Provide scholarships for wives along with husbands."

"Serious consideration should be given as to whether a minister's family should belong to a church other than the one of which he (or she) is minister."

"Discussions with other wives helpful, but counseling could easily become advice on how to sublimate needs instead of ways of recognizing own needs and helping to meet them."

Recommendations

With these results, and interpreting what they did and did not say, I herewith offer a few conclusions as to what the survey indicates, not only for the academy but for other groups which deal with ministers' wives as well.

1. Something needs to be done about salaries. Higher salaries ranked first on improving the lot of clergy families in general, second in the greatest-problem area, and last in the rewards of clergy life. Many of the problems mentioned (need for second car, family vacations, children's education) are money-related. In Toledo, Ohio, a principal in an elementary school of 300 children will average about $17,000, with a six-week vacation. His education may be comparable to a minister's but is usually less. The hours are considerably better. Somehow we need to get away from the poverty syndrome. Clergy have been in the forefront of the struggle for fair wages for labor and minorities. Why not a stand for their own profession?

2. The tremendous need for social life outside the church circle should—and could, at least partially—be met by the academy and other clergy groups. Ministers need to get over their reluctance to share, confide, and comfort one another. It is a truly sad situation when a clergyman or someone in his family needs comfort, and he, who comforts so much, has no one to turn to. Pride in the profession and love and understanding toward one another can help change this state of affairs. We must not be afraid to care for one another. We can rejoice in one another's joys and sympathize in one another's sorrows.

Turn the Page

3. The need for continuing education should stretch beyond the minister to include wife and sometimes children. Many wives made note of this in interpreting continuing education and in expressing their need for counsel and guidance in being clergy wives, and discovering their own identity. I find it interesting that the profession that expects the most of a wife is concerned so little for her continuing education.

4. The story of the ministry must be told clearly and often to the public. Even those who are active church members have little knowledge of what the ministry is and is not. The image of the minister is fuzzy, ranging from that of a pitiful patsy and errand boy to a strong authoritarian figure to be feared. To most, the image is somewhere in between. The manse is considered a great favor to the clergy family, and somehow the financial needs are supposed to be less. Perhaps congregations expect him, as a man of God, to be a miracle worker with a checkbook. He is preacher, teacher, healer, counselor, priest, business manager, promotion and public relations director, community leader, and more. He is also husband and father. His wife is a person in her own right, with individual needs quite apart from her role as parish partner. Somehow the public must become aware of the ministry as a profession, and the clergy family as human beings.

5. Clergy wives should be encouraged to develop themselves as people in their own right. So many feel hesitant to "bloom" because they are afraid of reactions from husband or church. Living in the shadow of another person is not healthy for either. This does not mean that she should necessarily run right out and find a job, but it does mean she should feel more than an appendage to her husband. Here is another of the sayings of Anais Nin: "The essential difficulty I see in the relationships around me is that women, the wives, are willing and ready to help their husbands to fulfill their desires, their objectives, their development of careers. But in few of the husbands do I see the same helpfulness. There is a fear that the development of woman will make her less of a wife, a mate, that they might even lose her."

Thus the wives of clergy generally stand ready to support and enhance the ministries of their husbands. It seems obvious that some concern and care need to be given to guide them toward more meaningful lives outside the church. Their cry is worth heeding in developing healthy human beings, both clergy and laity.

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CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE JUNE 26—JULY 1

BEGIN PLANNING NOW TO ATTEND

The time is fast approaching for the Christian Cadet Conference Camp at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain. A good program has been planned and all we need is you. The cost of camp this year will be $50. If you have not registered for camp, please do so on the application below. Registration fee is $7, with the remainder due upon boarding the bus.

APPLICATION

Name _____

Age _____

Address _____

Parents or Guardian _____

Church _____

Send application to:

The Rev. Bobby R. Taylor
Director-Registrar
Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, N. C. 28590

There will be an additional cost of $5 for a planned trip and $2 for a group picture, if the individual would like one. (Optional)

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: What is involved in believing in Christ and thereby being saved? Is there more to it than believing that Christ is the Son of God?

Answer: There is nothing more or less required of us than that we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ in the sense that we make a complete commitment to Christ according to the instructions given us in God's precious Word.

The jailer at Philippi would have killed himself when he feared that Paul and Silas had fled after the earthquake had opened the prison doors. And when Paul assured him that they were still there, the jailer asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" "And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:30, 31). And elsewhere we are told, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (John 3:36).

The sinner in that one short step which is called salvation by faith and faith alone finds himself changing masters or owners. "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Romans 6:17, 18).

The Bible not only teaches us that we changed masters when we were saved, but that to be victorious in the new life in Christ we need to make the same complete and uncompromised commitment to Christ and in keeping with the new nature as completely as in the old way of life we were committed to it and the natural things involved. As sinners it was easy for us to laugh with the world and to indulge wholly in material things.

When we repent and become Christians, it is only reasonable to expect of us that we always put Christ and spiritual values first. The Bible says: "Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday" (Psalm 37:3-6). Compare "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:5, 6).

SEMINARY AND EUREKA COLLEGE ALUMNI MEET

On Wednesday, May 17, the alumni of the Free Will Baptist Seminary and Eureka College held their annual meeting with about twenty members in attendance.

Those present recalled many happy experiences while at the Seminary in the early years of this century. Although there had been some talk of discontinuing the annual meetings because of the ever-decreasing membership, the alumni at this session were enthusiastically in favor of continuing the meetings.

The Rev. L. E. Ballard, president of the Alumni Association, read extracts from his memoirs concerning his reception on the first day of his attendance in 1917. He was the first person from the mountain Free Will Baptists to attend the Seminary and he told how two boys who were delegated to meet him at the bus station and escort him to the dormitory were confused when he got off the bus dressed in new gray flannel trousers, a blue serge coat, wearing black button shoes, and a straw hat, the latest in the styles of the time. They informed him that they had expected a "mountaineer," wearing overalls, unbuttoned at the neck and rolled up at the bottom of the legs, brogan shoes and a big floppy black hat. He told how the dormitory to which he was assigned was without screens, and mosquitoes kept him miserable. He declared that he was so unhappy the first two or three days that if a witch had come by riding a broom and offered to take him back home he would have jumped on and said "Let's go." But after the first two or three days, he found a home with a family just out of town who had screens on the windows, and he also found the boys and girls attending the Seminary nice and friendly, and he spent a happy few months with them. Everybody laughed when he said, "Of course, I fell in love with three or four of the girls."

During the business session, the group heartily agreed to cooperate with the Historical Commission and other agencies in endeavoring to secure permission to erect a suitable marker on the spot where the old Seminary once stood.

All the present officers were elected for another year. Special efforts are to be made to locate persons who attended the Seminary, but have not joined the Alumni Association.

Coming Events . . .

June 18—Father's Day
June 18—Superannuation Day in Local Churches
June 19-23—General Youth Conference, Cragmont Assembly
June 26—Youth Night, 7:30 p.m., registration 7 p. m., (General Conference) Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville
June 26-28—General Conference of Free Will Baptists, Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville
June 26—July 1—Christian Cadet Conference, Cragmont Assembly
June 27—Woman's Conference, 10 a.m., registration 9:30 a.m., (General Conference), Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville
July 17-20—Minister's Conference, Cragmont Assembly



SUNDAY, JUNE 11

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 2:21

HOW HE KNEW

A boy and girl, who played a good deal together, both learned to love the Saviour.

One day the boy said to his mother, "Mother, I know that Emma is a Christian!"

"What makes you think so?"

"Because Mother, she plays like a Christian."

"Plays like a Christian!" said the mother, to whom this sounded odd. "Why what do you mean?"

"You see," said the child, "she used to be selfish and get angry at any little thing; now she is not selfish any more and doesn't get angry if you take everything she has got."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Were you ever selfish when you were a child? God doesn't love selfish people, especially little boys and girls. He wants them to share their toys and love their friends.

MONDAY, JUNE 12

Scripture Reading—Colossians 1:18

WHY HE RETURNED

Jim was a barber in our village. He, his wife, and their three children were the prize family of our Sunday school. It was clear to all who knew him that Jim had prepared for advancement. We were not surprised when he announced that he had been offered an agency in another state. Shortly before they left for their new home, our little church gave Jim and family a farewell reception, and sent them on their way with blessings, prayers, and high hopes—with a few tears for them to remember us by. You can easily imagine the mixture of surprise and shock in our small community when, a few months later, Jim was back at his barber's chair. But he didn't seem in the least troubled. He greeted his friends with his old-time broad smile. And while he clipped hair, he explained: "No church or Sunday school in that big, new, mushroom town. Not one. People there are too busy making money, gambling, and drinking to need church. Such a day Sunday was! The kids cried for Sunday school. I couldn't raise my boy and little girls there. That's how Jennie felt about it, too." But God did not forget Jim; nor did businessmen. In a short time he was offered a better position—within walking distance of Sunday school.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Sometimes the people with the most money forget all about the Lord and His works. They think only about themselves.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

Scripture Reading—James 4:4

SEVENTY-ONE AND NO FRIENDS!

A clergyman visiting in the sick wards of a workhouse in a crowded city was asked by one of the nurses to say a word to a sick man whose bed was near the door of the ward. He said, "With pleasure, Nurse, but he is asleep." "No," she said, "he is dying." The clergyman went to the bed and noticed the namecard at the bed-head. "Robert Browning, aged seventy-one; no friends." "What does this mean, Nurse?" he asked. "Just what it says," she answered. "If he dies tonight we do not know anyone who knows him. Do speak to him." The clergyman bent over the bed and quietly said, "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear." In a moment the closed eyes opened, and a joyous whisper was heard. "Yes, Jesus is my Saviour, my Friend." "No friends," said the card; but the poor man claimed the friendship of the matchless Son of God. The promise of this ever-present-never-failing Friend is SURE: "And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you!" (Isaiah 46:4).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus is a Friend to all who believe in Him. He cares for all His children and loves all people.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

Scripture Reading—Romans 5:6

EVIDENCE OF PRAYER

I went to a dear old uncle of mine, Isaiah, before I left the Gipsy tent. I wanted him to be converted, but it would not be good breeding for a mere boy to talk to one of his elders. My uncle noticed a hole in the knee of my corduroys, and said, "My dear, it goes right through," I said, "Yes," and showed him the other knee. He said, "Why, it's worse than the other." I said, "Yes, Uncle, do you know how these holes were worn?" "No, my son, how?" I said, "Praying for you!" "Then," he said, "If that's so, it's time I began to pray for myself!" And he did.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We have all heard the saying "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Isn't that great? God will give us the strength to do many things.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

Scripture Reading—Luke 6:38

POOR LITTLE CENT!

A big silver dollar and a little brown cent,
Rolling along together they went,
Rolling along the smooth sidewalk,
When the dollar remarked—for the dollar can talk;
"You poor little cent, you cheap little mite,
I'm bigger and more than two times as bright,
I'm worth more than you—a hundredfold,
And written on me, in letters so bold,

Is the motto drawn from the pious creed,
'In God we trust,' which all can read."

"Yes, I know" said the cent, "I'm a cheap little mite,
And I know I'm not big or good or bright,
And yet," said the cent, with a meek little sigh,
"You don't go to church half as often as I!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you tithe as you should? You should give God back a portion of what He has given to you.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

Scripture Reading—Psalm 84:11

WASHING THE WOOL

A clergyman walking near a brook observed a woman washing wool in a stream. This was done by putting it in a sieve, and then dipping the sieve in the water repeatedly, until the wool became white and clean.

He asked the woman if she knew him.

"Oh, yes, sir," she said; "I shall have reason to bless God to eternity for having heard you preach some years ago. Your sermon was the means of doing me much good."

"I rejoice to hear it. Pray, what was the subject?"

"Ah, sir, I can't recollect that, my memory is so bad."

"How then can the sermon have done you so much good, if you don't remember even what it was about?"

Sir, my mind is like this sieve: the sieve does not hold the water, but as the water runs through, it cleanses the wool; so my memory does not retain the words I hear, but as they pass through my heart, by God's grace they cleanse it. Now I no longer love sin, and every day I entreat my Saviour to wash me in His own Blood, and to cleanse me from all pollution."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We have all sung the song, "Are You Washed in the Blood?" It is talking about the blood of Jesus Christ.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

Scripture Reading—Luke 15:18

THE SWAN AND THE CRANE

There is an old legend of a swan and a crane. A beautiful swan alighted by the banks of the water in which a crane was wading about seeking snails. For a few moments the crane viewed the swan in stupid wonder and then inquired:

"Where did you come from?"

"I came from Heaven!" replied the swan.

"And where is Heaven?" asked the crane.

"Heaven!" said the swan. "Heaven! have you never heard of Heaven?" And the beautiful bird went on to describe the grandeur of the Eternal city. She told of the streets of gold and the gates and walls of precious stones; of the river of life, pure as crystal, upon whose banks is the tree whose leaves shall be for the healing of all nations. In eloquent terms the swam sought to describe the hosts who live in the other world, but without arousing the slightest interest on the part of the crane.

Finally, the crane asked, "Are there any snails there?"

"Snails," repeated the swan, "no, of course there are not."

"Then," said the crane, as it continued its search along the slimy banks of the pools, "you can have your Heaven. I want snails!"

How many a young person to whom God has granted the advantages of a Christian home, has turned his back upon it and searched for snails! How many a man will sacrifice his wife, his family, his all, for the snails of sin! How many a girl has deliberately turned from the love of parents and home to learn too late that Heaven has been forfeited by snails!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Of two animals—one is beautiful and the other is not! God created both of them, "all creatures great and small."

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

WHY REVIVALS ARE DESIRED

Read Psalm 137:8

Revivals are desired because God loves revivals. A revival is not a questionable good. It bears the superscription of Heaven. There is a great need for revival today. Zion languishes. Christians are asleep. Iniquity is coming in like a flood. Sinners are perishing. Christ is dishonored. God comes near in a revival. Our sins have hidden His face from us. He seems far distant. If He deigns to revive His work, He will return. He will cause His face to shine and we will be saved. A revival of the religion of Christ would be an evidence that God accepts our poor endeavors. Often we are ready to cry out, "Who is sufficient for these things?" Oh, for some tokens of the Master's favor! A revival would be a great blessing to our churches. A revival would add glory to the crown of Christ. Souls are its choicest jewels."

From—Evangelist Arnold Woodlief

ATTENTION

The annual Home Missions Banquet will be held at the Barbecue Lodge on Highway 95 and Grove Street in Fayetteville on June 10 at 12:30. Lunch will be served family style at $4.50 per plate. All interested people are invited to attend.

—Taylor Hill, Director

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SPIRITED FRESHMAN IS POPULAR CHOICE



Three generations of Mount Olive College students, from left, the Rev. Leonard Woodall, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield; his daughter, Mrs. Barbara Woodall Hinton; and her daughter Vivian Hinton.

Lively, brown-eyed Vivian Hinton from Princeton must have captured the hearts and spirit of her freshman class at Mount Olive College.

As the academic year came to a close, Vivian has as her accomplishments, the title of Miss Mount Olive College, the coveted Presidential Citizenship award, and a slot as one of the first four students selected to serve in the new Resident Assistant programs on the Mount Olive campus.

As a 1977 graduate of Princeton High School, Vivian was a cheerleader and President of the Beta Club.

"I decided to attend Mount Olive College because classes are small and they place a lot of emphasis on individual student attention," Vivian said.

No doubt some influence can be taken from her mother, Barbara Woodall Hinton's attendance at Mount Olive in 1954-55, and her grandfather, the Rev. Leonard Woodall's graduation after her in 1957. Woodall, who pastors First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield, also serves on the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

In 1954 Barbara Hinton served as the first Student Government President as a freshman. She was also involved in the Prayer Band, Glee Club, and Commerical Club, an organization for business majors.

When Vivian arrived on campus last fall, she joined the Free Will Baptist Fellowship and was elected vice-president. She also joined the Henderson Science Club serving as secretary.

Vivian enrolled in the pre-nursing program and became interested in social work through related courses.

"Most of all I want to be in a career that helps other people," she states.

Shortly into the year, Vivian was asked to serve on the Student Affairs Committee, a body that plans and presents student activities on campus.

Beginning in January, Vivian found herself tied for first runner-up from among 8 participants of the Winter Festival Court. The Winter Festival weekend includes a series of homecoming type events over an early February weekend.

Later in the spring the freshmen class nominated four freshmen women to the Miss Mount Olive Court and again Vivian was in the running.

"It was really exciting but I knew the competition was too much for me to have any hope," she said.

Vivian competed with three freshmen women and four sophomore women for the title of Miss Mount Olive College.

"When my name was called and I was being crowned, my knees got so weak, I just started crying. My mom was crying and my grandmother was crying," Vivian recalls.

Vivian also recalls History Professor, Claude Moore, Pageant Master of Ceremonies, asking her if she wanted to say something or just cry. Vivian says, "I just told him I was going to cry."

A Resident Assistants' program to be initiated for the fall semester was created as a part of the student services staff responsible for creating a well-rounded experience for the students on campus.

"When I went for my second interview and saw all those people, I knew this was an important position," Vivian said.

The Resident Assistants will act as programmers and organizers for student activities on campus and also be open for any student seeking help. They will help determine student interest, aid in promoting educational programs that compliment the total campus life program and serve as actual members of the student services staff of the College.

(Continued on Page 11)

HURRY! YOU MIGHT BE LEFT!

Youth Frontier Conference
Cragmont Assembly

YFA Week—July 3-8
AFC Week—July 10-16

A Big Surprise Is In Store For All

Registration Form
Fee—$7.00

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE

Name _____

Address _____

Parents _____

Church _____

Pastor _____

Week You Want to Go:

YFA _____

AFC _____

Send to: **Mrs. David W. Hansley**
Route 4, Box 163
LaGrange, North Carolina 28551

"A Christian Home for Boys and Girls

free will baptist children's home

MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

DANIELS CHAPEL MAKES $2,360 CONTRIBUTION



Freezing Time

The Daniels Chapel Men's Fellowship under the leadership of Mr. Charles Maddery and the members of the Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson presented a $360 freezer to Central Cottage in May for this summer's freezing.



Shrubbery Time

Daniels Chapel folks became aware of our need for shrubbery. Under the leadership of their pastor, the Rev. David C. Hansley, and Mr. Maddery the church raised $2,000 for shrubbery for the Children's Home and the Retirement Homes. Mr. Robert Strickland, a nurseryman in Daniels Chapel church, sold the shrubs at wholesale to the church for planting on our campus. The men of the church came to campus and planted shrubs on Saturdays. Now all of our buildings have beautiful green shrubbery to compliment their appearance.



Putting Out Shrubbery

All of us at the Children's Home and the Retirement Homes would like to express our sincere appreciation for the gifts of $2,360 in shrubbery and the food freezer from our friends at Daniels Chapel.

CANNING AND FREEZING TIME

The garden peas are blooming. the potatoes look fine. The corn's a foot tall and the rest of the garden is being planted or is already peeking through the ground. We have about four acres of garden this year and we hope to do a lot of canning and freezing. You can help! WE NEED JARS. We need quart and pint jars to can in. Many of you may have jars you no longer use; if you do, please get all your church folks to get their extra jars together and bring them to us as soon as possible.

As you know, home canning and freezing will save us a great deal of money on our grocery bill.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

MISSIONS

COLLEGE WAS MORE THAN CLASSROOM EXPERIENCES

by the Rev. Fred Baker



The Fred Bakers

One of the greatest experiences of our lives was the opportunity God gave Linda and me to go back to school. There have been many joys and sorrows over the last four years. But through each day there has been the assurance that we were not alone. Through every assignment, research paper and exam, God was always there.

College was more than just sitting in a classroom and learning facts and events. God transformed it into a life-changing process to fit us for His service. One area in our lives in which God has constantly been working is, ". . . the just shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17). We felt we were living by faith but God had so much to teach. It has been a process of learning to trust in God alone for everything. It is often easy to take care of the small things and leave the big ones for God to handle. But God wants us to lean upon Him even in the everyday little things of life.

Another area in which God seems to have been working night and day is, waiting upon the Lord (Isaiah 40:31). The hardest times in our lives have been when we try to get ahead of God. Impatience is the mother of trouble for the Christian. It leads us to labor in the flesh and to do things our way. Doing God's will involves doing **WHAT** God tells you, **WHEN** He tells you, and **HOW** He

(Continued on Page 15)

People and Events of the Early Church

by Joyce Tilghman

All are found in the Book of Acts. They will be found horizontally, perpendicularly, and diagonally, and some are spelled backwards.

S V S A B C H R I S T I A N S
C I E I D E F G P H I L I P H
I S L N M J T I M O T H E U S
R I I V E O S U I L E N R O C
E O T E E H N K L Y M N O P B
Y N N S V R P Q U G R S T A A
A U E S A V S E W H X Y S Z R
R A G E N B C M T O D K E F N
P A U L G H I S I S E J K A A
E M N O E P A P Q T R S T E B
T U V W L L X R Y Z H A B N A
E L Y D I A C I F E L I X E S
R D E S S F G S P I R I T A A
H P E N T E C O S T I J K S U
L M N O P Q R N N A M E M A L

Prayer
Pentecost
Peter
Lame man
Holy Ghost
Saul
Simon
Philip
Vessel
Basket
Barnabas
Aeneas
Cornelius
Spirit
Vision
Gentiles
Christians
Timotheus
Lydia
Prison
Paul
Silas
Silversmith
Evangelist
Felix
Angel

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 8)

Dr. Evelyn Mayer, dean of students, commented, "We would not have attempted to begin this program on the Mount Olive campus had it not been that we have students like Vivian, who are of the caliber to benefit and be beneficial to the program's purposes."

In describing her new position, Vivian added, "I want to be myself, even though I have this new responsibility. I want to be a student's friend, because I am a student too."

On Awards Day in May, Vivian was presented with the President's Citizenship award given to the student who by choice of the student body, has contributed the greatest enrichment to student life at Mount Olive College.

"I just can't believe it's all happened to me," Vivian said.

Vivian lives on Route 1, Princeton, where her seven-year-old sister Christy, is in the second grade at Princeton Elementary School. Her mother, Barbara, is a teacher at Rosewood Elementary School and her father, Jim, is a water plant technician at Cherry Hospital in Goldsboro.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. James Warren of Kinston announces that he is available for a full-time church. Mr. Warren is a member of the Eastern Conference and in good standing with the conference. Any Original Free Will Baptist church in need of a full-time pastor may contact Mr. Warren at the following address: Rev. James E. Warren, 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or by phoning 527-1548.

The Rev. Harry A. Jones announces that he will be available for pastoral work at the end of June. His present address is Rev. Harry A. Jones, Route 1, Box 430, Dover, North Carolina 28526. He may be contacted by phoning 527-3262 or 527-8459.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For June 18

RESPONDING TO THE GOOD NEWS

Lesson Text: Acts 16:25-34
Memory Verse: Acts 16:31

I. INTRODUCTION

Our last lesson concluded as the decision regarding the admission of Gentiles into the church was sent from the Jerusalem brethren to the church at Antioch, being carried by Paul, Barnabas, Judas, Silas and certain others. We noted that the message was received with joy. After a period of teaching and exhorting by these men, Judas returned to Jerusalem, but Paul, Barnabas, and Silas stayed at Antioch, teaching and preaching. Barnabas and Paul then decided to revisit the churches they had established in Asia Minor on their first missionary journey. However, Paul did not want to take John Mark with them, whereas Barnabas did. Failing to come to an agreement over this matter, they decided to go different ways with different companions. Barnabas sailed for Cyprus with John Mark, and Paul went overland through Syria into Asia Minor, accompanied by Silas (15:36-41).

At Lystra Paul chose Timothy to be a helper. They continued to Troas where Luke joined the group. Here a vision directed Paul to go into Europe. Thus the group sailed to Macedonia and came to Philippi (16:1-12).

At Philippi a woman named Lydia was converted, and she opened her home to the apostolic group. Soon after this a young woman possessed of a "spirit of divination" began to follow the group of preachers and cried after them, saying they were God's servants who showed "the way of salvation." Paul commanded the demon to come out of her, and it did. Thus her power to reveal "secrets" was cut off. She was a slave owned by certain men who gained much profit from her abilities. Being angered that Paul had cut off their profits, they agitated the authorities against him, and had Paul and Silas arrested, beaten, and imprisoned.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The events in the lesson took place during Paul's second missionary journey. His companion in this journey, however, was not Barnabas, but Silas, to whom we were introduced last Sunday. Paul chose Silas, sadly enough, because of a disagreement between Paul and Barnabas, as found in Acts 15:36-41.

B. Paul had said to Barnabas, ". . . Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do" (v. 36). Barnabas agreed, but he wanted to take Mark with them. Paul, for some reason, thought it best not to (v. 38). So, after some "sharp" contention, Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus. Paul chose Silas to accompany him on his journey "through Syria and Cilicia" (vv. 40, 41) where they would stop over at the different churches "confirming" them (v. 41), that is, encouraging and strengthening them in the faith.

C. As they passed through the cities of Derbe and Lystra, Paul found a young disciple, named Timothy, whose mother was Jewish, but whose father was a Greek. Later Paul and Timothy would have a very close relationship. Passing through other areas, Paul and Silas came to the city of Philippi in Macedonia. They preached the gospel to the people, but suffered a beating for it (16:23) and were cast into jail. They were securely fastened "in the stocks" (v. 24) and guarded by a jailer.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Why is the Apostle Paul often considered the greatest apostle of Christianity since the time of Christ? The zeal he had once used to persecute the Christians was used to spread the gospel, and a study of his activities shows that he was a great missionary statesman. The books he wrote that we have in the Bible prove this. Paul was truly a great man.

B. It is possible for good men to disagree. Both Paul and Barnabas were good men, yet they disagreed about taking John Mark with them on the second missionary journey. This was not right, but both Paul and Barnabas were only men, and God used this disagreement to further the gospel.

C. God, in the Person of the Holy Spirit, stopped Paul from going into Asia or Bithynia. Three wonderful truths come to us out of God's control of His servants: God's leadership disciplines His man; God's leadership promotes His plan; and God's leadership unfolds His call.

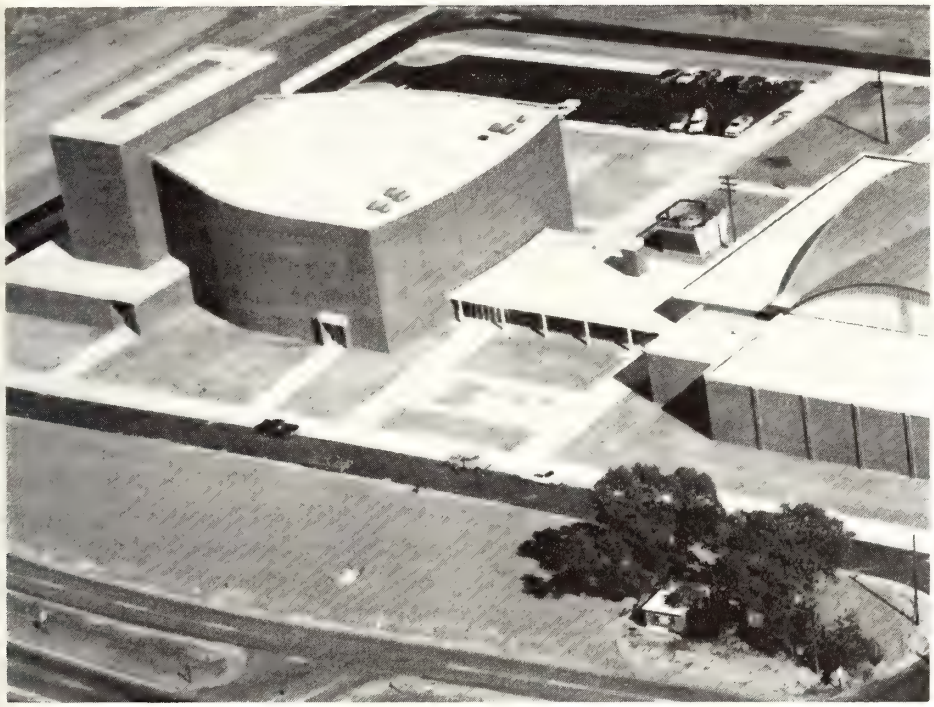
D. Observe how God's plan unfolded in Philippi. First, God gave Paul and Silas a convert who asked them to make her house their base of operation. Second, God allowed them to be beaten and thrown into prison to gain other converts. Paul and Silas did not plan this, but God was in control. Is He in control of your life?

E. Many have wondered why Paul circumcised young Timothy. Some have even said that he was inconsistent because he refused to have Titus circumcised. But there was a great difference. What was essential to salvation was not at issue when Timothy was circumcised, as it was with Titus. Paul was willing to go as far as morals and good sense would permit to get along with the Jews to whom he planned to preach the gospel.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

The State Convention has designated June as Cragmont Assembly Month.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF CHURCHES



The State Convention of Churches of the Original Free Will Baptists will meet on September 12, 13, 1978, in the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Watch The Free Will Baptist for news concerning this meeting. Begin making plans early to attend.

NEWS NOTES

Paul Jenkins to Hold Davis Church Revival



Paul Jenkins

The Rev. Paul Jenkins, pastor of the Elwood Lane Original Free Will Baptist Church, Kannapolis, will hold a revival at Davis church, June 18-23. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend. Services will begin at 7:30 nightly. The Rev. James A. Evans is the pastor of the church.

Vacation Bible School At Plymouth Church

Vacation Bible School at the Plymouth First Free Will Baptist Church will begin June 12 and continue through June 16 at 7 to 9 p. m. The church is located at the corner of West Avenue and Highway #64. This is a special invitation for parents to have their children enrolled for this Christian Youth Fellowship. To qualify for enrollment, a child must be 3 years old through teenage.

General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists to Meet

The General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet with the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, June 27, 28, 1978. The program is as follows:

Tuesday, June 27, 1978

4:00 P. M.—General Board Meeting
6:00 P. M.—Registration of Ministers, Delegates, and Visitors
—Special Singing, the Rev. and Mrs. Arnold Price
7:30 P. M.—Official Opening: Conference Secretary, the Rev. Harry A. Jones
—Welcome, Host Pastor the Rev. James Lupton
—Response, the Rev. O. B. Jones
7:45 P. M.—Appointment of Committees, Conference President, the Rev. J.B. Starnes
—Reading of Minutes
—Old and New Business
8:15 P. M.—Introduction of Speaker, the Rev. J. B. Starnes
—Message, the Rev. Robert May
8:40 P. M.—Announcements
—Adjournment, Conference President, the Rev. J.B. Starnes

Wednesday, June 28, 1978

9:00 A. M.—Registration of Ministers, Delegates, and Visitors
9:45 A. M.—Special Singing, Host Church
10:00 A. M.—Devotions, the Rev. Danny Braswell
10:15 A. M.—President's Message, the Rev. J. B. Starnes
10:30 A. M.—Partial Report, Credentials Committee
10:45 A. M.—Special Music, Host Church
11:00 A. M.—Conference Message, the Rev. Arnold Price
12:00 Noon—Announcements
—Benediction

Lunch Tuesday and Wednesday catered by Wilber's of Goldsboro, North Carolina—Barbecue and Fried Chicken combination plates, including tea, $2.50 each.

Peace rules the day when Christ rules the soul.

Auxiliaries IN Action



REPORT BLANK
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Date _____

Name of Auxiliary or Convention _____

Address _____

President _____ Address _____

Delegate or letter _____ Address _____

_____ Address _____

Pastor _____ Address _____

Representation: Auxiliaries—One (1) delegate for each ten (10) members or fraction thereof: Denominational organizations or conventions—One (1) delegate for each fifty (50) members or fraction thereof.

Registration fees sent to this session. $___(Please note that each Auxiliary or Convention is requested to represent with a minimum of five dollars ($5.00).

Contribution to General Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention Mission Fund $___

Please fill in the appropriate spaces below:

Organization	Number on roll
Auxiliary _____	_____
Youth _____	_____
Convention _____	_____

Please UNDERLINE any of the following areas in which your Auxiliary would like information: PROJECTS, ORGANIZATION, PROGRAMS, YOUTH.

Write any other subject for which you desire material at the bottom of this paper.

IF YOU CANNOT REPRESENT BY DELEGATION, please return this blank along with your contributions to Mrs. R. H. Jackson, 1010 Raleigh Road, Clinton, North Carolina. 28328.

ATTENTION EASTERN DISTRICT

The very core of the Woman's Auxiliary (or of any work we undertake for the Lord) is missions! Souls are the very reason Jesus came. He paid the price of His precious blood for our souls.

Each denominational enterprise is a spoke in a wheel, extending out from the hub, Jesus Christ (missions). Therefore, each denominational enterprise is a mission field "white unto harvest."

The leaders of each enterprise have a grave responsibility for each lost soul who passes through their doors.

Each Christian has the responsibility and privilege of being a missionary, of obeying the command to "go ye into all the world."

There are many ways to "go." Each one is to be a **witness**, wherever she is, or wherever she goes of course (see Acts 1:8). But we also "go" and witness through our missionaries, when we support them.

One way in which we can support them is with a walk-a-thon for missions. We usually think of this as an activity for youth groups, but the entire church may participate.

This is exciting, and fun, and, at the same time, helps fulfill the commission to "go ye into the world and preach the gospel" (Mark 16:15, 16).

Let's walk here at home to support our missionaries so they can walk there with the Good News of salvation!

Information on how to plan and have a walk-a-thon for foreign missions may be obtained upon request from the Rev. Joe Ingram, director-treasurer, P. O. Box 979, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530; or Mrs. Adaline Gray, Route 8, Box 271, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

CONGRATULATIONS, SENIORS!!!

Editorial . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

their hearts, the construction of their heads (the eyes, etc.); and I remember feeling a little sick that these chicks would never have a chance to develop into mature, healthy chickens.

The experience was a Health-Science lesson with all ethics employed; no unusual or harsh methods were exercised in the removal of the chicks or their organs from the shells. There was no evidence of cruelty to animals, and the demonstration was all in the interest of education; but that was not quite enough consolation for me!

Surely no one should equate an unhatched chick to an unborn human. Still, I, personally, could not help but draw a parallel. Perhaps I was the only one so bothered, but I remember feeling that life was being destroyed.

Opinions will vary, of course. But the Scriptures teach, "Thou shalt not kill." Performing abortions is a matter of individual conscience, and all of us have the right to ponder: "Abortion: Murder or Not?" But from where I sit, "Murder!" echoes long and loud . . . .

TO EVERYONE 8 TO 9

Registration is still going on for General Youth Conference Week (June 19th-24th), and we still have plenty of room. The deadline for registration has been changed from June 5th to June 14th, 1978. To register yourself complete the following and send to John Williams, Route 2, Box 583, Wilson, North Carolina 27893.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

AGE _____

CHURCH _____

YOUR PHONE NUMBER _____

YOUR YOUTH LEADER'S PHONE NO. AND NAME _____

_____

Enclose a $10 registration fee.

Cost of the camp for this session will be $50. Your $10 registration fee will be considered as a part of your cost of camp. You will need to take your own spending money.

REMEMBER, The deadline has been changed to June 14, 1978, so get those registrations in now.

Your friend in Christ,
John R. Williams
Director, Registrar

ARE YOU LIVING ON MEMORIES?

by L. E. Ballard

Recently a good friend of mine said to me, "Mr. Ballard, you have a lot of good memories to live on during the time of retirement."

This friend of mine was right on one point—I do have a lot of precious memories in connection with my ministry and in connection with my personal life, along with some that are not so delightful to recall.

But I am not willing to accept my friend's implied suggestions. In the first place, I have not retired in the sense of resting upon any memories of the past in the sense of making them the major substance of the later days of my life. The resolution: "'I will live anyhow until I die" is just as much a pattern for my life now as it was when I adopted it early in life.

Of course there are some things which were a part of my living over a long period of my life which it would not be wise for me to do now. It would be foolish for me to undertake long trips that require driving often until after midnight as was the case often during the years I served as statewide promotional secretary for our State Sunday School Convention.

I am aware of the fact that I could not very well serve as pastor of a large church with a program requiring at times day and night response to calls. But I am still able to pastor a small church, and I can still preach—O well, let me admit that I have never claimed to be a great preacher! But some people might be surprised to learn how often I am called upon to supply for pastors when they are sick or on vacation. Because I have accumulated quite a lot of documents and items of denominational information, I am often called on for help by people who are asked to prepare papers on given subjects.

Yes, I have much more to live for than memories on this so-called "retirement" of mine. Be it days, months, or many years, I still count myself a servant of God; and I shall seek to carry out my commitments as such.

MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 10)

tells you. Four and one-half years ago God laid upon our hearts the call to minister to the peoples of the Philippines. We felt we were ready then but God knew better. That was the beginning of four years of preparation. God has taught us much during this time.

We have been constantly aware that it is God working through our weaknesses to accomplish His purpose in our lives. Please join us in prayer and praise to the Lord that He will continue to teach us in these two vital areas of our lives.

FAITH AND FEAR CAN NEVER EXIST TOGETHER.



MINISTERS HAVE THE NOBLEST OF CALLINGS.

THEY SHOULD BE HONORED AND SUPPORTED.

The third Sunday in June, Father's Day, has been designated by the State Convention as "Superannuation Day" in our Free Will Baptist churches.

DO YOUR PART BY OBSERVING

"SUPERANNUATION DAY" JUNE 18, 1978 in Your Church

YOU MAY SUPPORT YOUR SUPERANNUATION PROGRAM IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

1. Receive a Special Offering on Father's Day, or
2. Send a Special Gift from Your Treasurer, or
3. Urge Special Individual Gifts; and
4. Remember to Support the Program with Your Prayers and Gifts Throughout the Year.

SEND YOUR GIFTS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF SUPERANNUATION

P. O. BOX 474

AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA 28513

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM, N. C.



SOME PEOPLE REALIZE IMMENSE PROFITS FROM THEIR "BORN-AGAIN" STATUS. DON'T TAKE ALL NEW BIRTH CLAIMANTS AS GENUINE.



Editorial . . .

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

"BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN": A MISNOMER?

When Jimmy Carter became President, he spoke of himself in personal terms perhaps never heard before from a chief executive. He openly, and with obvious pride, referred to himself as having had a personal experience with Christ, and called himself "a born-again Christian." The phrase itself was not all that familiar to most people. In fact, questions were raised as to exactly what it meant.

It was not just with the advent of Jimmy Carter that the term "born again" gained popular usage. It has been an affirmation of sorts in religious circles for as long as many of us can remember, and has been used widely; *but*, the meaning has been (and still is) as varied as the personalities of those professing their "experience."

With Mr. Carter's announcement, nonetheless, "born again" did take on newer and fresher meaning, and more interest was probably generated by his declaration. Still, before he professed his faith in Christ and capped it with the statement, there were other notables who used the term frequently. Moreover, many had used it loosely—to the extent that when someone said, "I've been born again," he seemed to imply a blanket forgiveness of his sins and the assumption of an exemplary, Christian life.

Yes, the term has come into recent vogue; and movie stars, athletes, entertainers, political figures, known criminals, and all manner of persons in great number attest to being "born again." We hasten here to say that we do not doubt the veracity of all such proclaimers, but in good conscience neither dare we accept the word of all who claim the new birth. It is easy to say, "I've been transformed." It is harder to live the life.

And living the life is what it's all about. We are taught that when a man is born again, he is different. Note 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." *All things are become new.* This is where we ponder the validity of using the term "born again"—especially as it relates to some entertainers, motion picture stars, notables of the stage, and others we've mentioned. What really bothers us is the fact that in too many cases their life styles seem to have changed very little. Some of them have merely added the "credit" to their billing and have capitalized on it through recording of religious music, writing autobiographies which depict both sides of their lives, and lecturing (or "witnessing," as they call it) to large audiences—for a fee!

On one popular religious telecast, a well-known Christian musician flashed his several diamonds and sequin-studded costume and contended that he must give the world "some color and glamor" in order to compete with his non-Christian counterparts. Granted, diamonds and theatrical costumes do not make a person any *less* Christian than do pebbles and rags; but we wonder if Christ approves the flashiness of some performers when they appear so much like (and in many cases act the same) as performers who by their lives deny any association with the church or any established religion.

Our real complaint is that "born again," formerly a sacred and seriously used description, has become meaningless, and no longer the antithesis of "being lost." When Christ said to Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again," He said so in utter seriousness. He did not allow for *maybe so's or ought to's.* He stated firmly, "Ye *must.*"

We would be wise not to accept everything at face value. Conversely, we certainly do not want to become confirmed doubters. But, if the "born-again

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JUNE 14, 1978

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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PARSONAGE LIFE:

submitted by DeW. Eakes

THE WIFE'S VIEWPOINT

(To be continued in next week's issue.)

by Marilyn Brown Oden

RECENTLY someone asked me if I would make any changes if I were writing **The Minister's Wife: Person or Position?** today. "Well," I said, "with the increasing number of women ministers, I would certainly change the title!"

Her question stayed with me, however, and I kept wondering how many of my former perceptions have been modified. So one day I took the book off the shelf and began rereading what I had said at the ripe old age of twenty-five. I did not get past the Acknowledgements before I was staggered by change. In that section I had expressed appreciation to a "group of individuals married to ministers in the Oklahoma City area." There were ten women in that group who met weekly, all of us wives of strongly committed pastors. Now, besides my husband Bill, only two other husbands remain in local churches; three are in related ministries; three have left the ministry altogether; and one is divorced. This, I think, reflects the tremendous upheaval in the church over the past decade.

With this upheaval it is understandable that problems within the professional ministry have become more complex. In my earlier writing, I lifted up five problems in the ministry: schooling, the bargain phenomenon (where you get two for the price of one), aloneness, the parsonage system, and salary. These problems continue to some degree, and others have arisen. I would like to discuss two of the earlier problems and also two additional ones.

The Parsonage System

The parsonage system seems to be dying, but it is a slow death. Bill and I live in a parsonage. It is comfortable and colorful, and we appreciate it. It was a new house when we moved into it, and I wanted to keep it perfect. Then one day my son burst out: "I hate living here! I can't touch anything! It's like living in a museum!" I heard that word. Now it is very much our home.

For us personally a parsonage has worked, but I question the wisdom of this system. What about the independence that comes with providing one's own shelter? What about our share of property taxes? What about a friend of mine—and others like her—whose husband died suddenly? Shocked and grieving, she and her children had to face not only his death, but also leaving their home. During her marriage, she had cared for the children, made a home, and helped with church activities. With no job experience, nor equity built up in a house, nor savings toward a down payment, she was a poor mortgage risk. What about her? And what about the minister who retires and has to consider buying his first house in his elderly years? He, too, is a poor mortgage risk. Though the parsonage system works for some of us, it can be a paternalistic kindness that inhibits our personal and professional independence and blocks our economic security.

Salary Worry

In a time of inflation, the problem of salary has become more severe. Salaries are higher, but they do not go far. For example, the General Board of Pensions figures the average minister's salary in Oklahoma at $9,039. The federal government qualifies for reduced school lunch tickets three-child families earning that amount—they are living in poverty. To be even more specific, let's compare the average minister's salary in Oklahoma with the beginning teacher's salary in Oklahoma City. The average minister works year-round and earns $753 monthly; the first-year teacher, with no experience nor training beyond a bachelor's degree, gets $855 a month for nine months. Financial worry is a continual stress in the ministry.

Divorce

One of the new problems I see is divorce. When I wrote **The Minister's Wife: Person or Position?** divorce in the ministry was a rarity, and I assumed that ministers and their wives "share life's comforts, face together its conflicts—as long as they both shall live." A false assumption! A counselor for one of the United Methodist Conferences has stated that five years ago the major crisis was in the study: whether the minister could remain in his profession; now it has moved to the parsonage: whether his family can stay together if he remains. When divorce occurs, unless the children remain with the parent who is a minister, they not only face the guilt of blaming themselves for the divorce (a typical response of children), and the grief of their parents' separation, but also the loss of their community of faith. (And if they live in a parsonage, they love their home, their neighborhood friends, and perhaps their school.) Divorce has reached into the professional ministry and become a crucial problem which will be even further complicated as ordained clergy couples divorce.

The Employed Wife

Another difficulty is one caused by the convergence of salary, inflation, and women's lib. It seems to hit hardest the male ministers in his thirties or forties, whose wife after years of being a full-time (unpaid) partner in his ministry becomes employed. It stems from financial necessity and from a desire, perhaps a need, on her part to do something on her own. The result is a support-vacuum.

At the time I wrote the Acknowledgements, no one in that weekly group was working; now all of us work. There are

Turn the Page

advantages in going to work. For example, we can use the gifts God has given us to serve his family in the world. We can also represent the church to people who have no contact with it. We do not necessarily use the words God or Jesus Christ with them, but when they learn our husbands are ministers, they see in us good or bad models of what the church means. (When I need to justify my job, I tell myself I'm a missionary!)

Our advantages stand against the disadvantage of the support-vacuum. The work-week takes a huge chunk from our waking hours. It simply is not possible to provide the support for our husbands that we did prior to taking a job. In my earlier writing, I spoke of the minister finding "harmony or discord, happiness or despair" in his home and of providing comfort, support, and acceptance. I used a quotation from Mark Twain, in which Adam said: "It is better to live outside the Garden with her than inside it without her." After which, I wrote: "And perhaps through our love, our husbands may be blessed as was Adam—feeling also that wherever is Eve, there is Eden." At the time, I believed that I lived it. I still like the sound of it but I don't live it. There is not the time nor the energy.

Our situation is probably typical. I am a school counselor, and I do my job well; I try to help needy middle school students get the care and affirmation at school that they would not receive otherwise. And when I go home, I try to give my own children the love, time, care and sensitivity they need. And Bill, whom I view as secure, strong, and stable, gets the support that's left over which is nothing at all like my earlier help.

Our love has grown. The difference is that I used to focus on supporting him, and now my vision is cluttered with other needs. Look at our family's changed pattern: I used to do much of Bill's and the church's typing, have friends over for dinner fairly frequently, keep up with housekeeping by myself, and pack Bill's clothes for him when he was going some place. Now his secretary does the typing, we talk about how we'd like to have so-and-so for dinner, but we seldom get around to doing it; we all share in the housekeeping; and Bill does his own packing. Things are just not the same as they used to be! On the intellectual level, it is all understandable. It's OK. Perhaps it's even healthier. But on the feeling level, there is a sense of loss—a central value has been attacked.

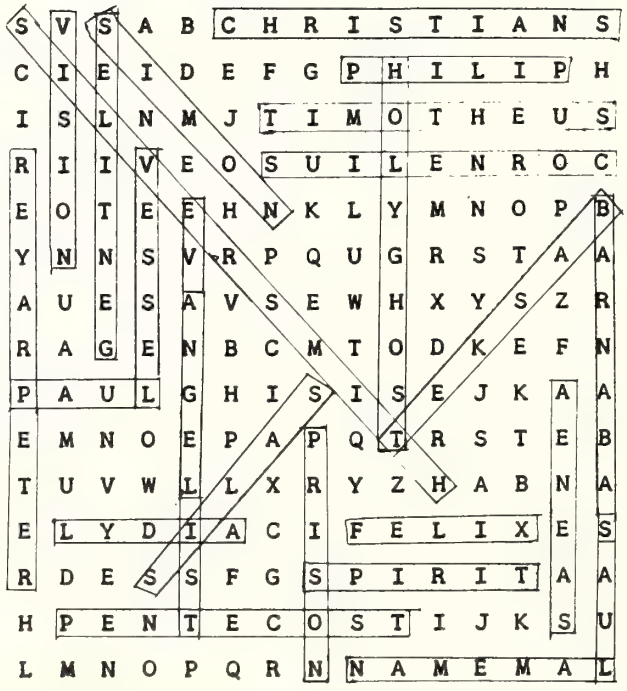
I think this change is more noticeable to husbands than to wives. They were always busy with their jobs and never did give the attention to support that we did. They felt a void when our attention shifted; which, of course, we were not sensitive to because our feelings toward them had not changed. I think that this is also more difficult for those of us who have been married ten years or longer. When we married, we shared an image of marriage as a symbiotic relationship in which one partner (the female) had the supportive role and the other partner had the challenging role. Now when people marry, it is more common to find that their image is one of two equal partners, each supportive and each self-determining.

The problems faced by those of us who share the professional ministry reflect the complexity of our world. There are no easy solutions. But perhaps daring to admit the problems and to discuss the difficulties openly and honestly is a beginning.

Answers to Last Week's Puzzle

People and Events of the Early Church

by Joyce Tilghman



Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Please explain, "And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offense of the cross ceased" (Galatians 5:11). I would especially like to know what is meant here by "the offence of the cross"

Answer: The apostle evidently refers here to the contempt and antagonism the unconverted exercise toward the Cross of Christ as the only means by which sinners, whether Jews or Gentiles, may be saved. The worshipers of false gods had other means by which they proposed to escape the condemnation that rests upon sinners.

Dr. Kenneth Wuest, in his translation of Verse 11, uses the expression "Then the stumbling block of the cross has been done away with" in place of that in the Authorized or King James Version. The dictionary defines "stumbling block" as an **offense**, and "offence" as a **stumbling block**, that is, an impediment to belief. Mortal man is offended by the very thought of crucifixion, yet he cannot overlook it or deny it, for Christ died on the Cross to fulfill the prophecy of His mission.

When Jesus explained to His apostles "how that must must go into Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. . . Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men. Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:21, 26).

The natural man hates and detests crucifixion. But it was God's only way by which Christ could fulfill His purpose—the purpose designed by God from or before the foundation when He offered His Son to be as the Lamb. The Christian who would take up his cross and follow Christ must of necessity always be laying his life down or putting it on the line. As Paul wrote, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

Though dead to the world and to the old life, Paul was more alive than he had ever been before. There was a new life in him, the source of all life, even Christ. Every Christian who today lives and walks by faith is dominated by this new life which is the resurrected Christ. The life such a one now lives is by the faith of the Son of God who loves him and gave His life in exchange for himn. It could and would and shall be no other way.

In **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered**, by George H. Sandison and staff, we find a further explanation.

"By the 'offense of the cross' (Galatians 5:11) Paul means the contempt and antagonism felt by both Jews and Greeks toward the idea of being saved by the death of Jesus. The Jews thought they would be saved by keeping the law; the Greeks hoped to be saved by seeking wisdom. But Paul insisted that we are saved, not by keeping the law nor by being wise, but by believing that Jesus Christ died for us (see 1 Corinthians 1:18-24). It is hard for us in these days to understand precisely the controversy Paul was having with the Jews and the way they felt toward him. They looked upon him as a bad man. That was the reproach that he had to bear. They felt that to be 'good' one had to be circumcised and to keep the ceremonial law of Moses. Paul said that was not the way to be good. He said it was not necessary to be circumcised or to keep the ceremonial law. The Galatians to whom he writes in the passage mentioned had accepted this teaching of his, but had been influenced to return, to some extent at least, to the bondage of the Jewish law. Paul sternly rebukes them for this. They have been refusing to bear the 'offense' of the cross; they were refusing to state and live the testimony that they were saved not by any effort of their own but by the fact that Christ died for them. The 'offense' of the cross also means the self-sacrifice, the humility, the brave service for others which are included in the self-abandonment which the soul must make at the cross of Jesus."

Editorial . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

Christians"—so called—(notwithstanding their silver tongues and golden throats) live contrary to their calling, the public (and we) have good cause to doubt.

Being born again, and professing to be, has become something of a fad. We lament that fact and fear that when all is reaped, the term "born-again Christian" will be relegated to the boundless volumes of misnomers.

Let's restore the original meaning.



SUNDAY, JUNE 18

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 6:18

DAD

His shoulders are a little bent,
His youthful force a trifle spent,
But he's the finest man I know,
With heart of gold and hair of snow,
He's seldom cross and never mean,
I only hope I'll always be
As kind to him as he is to me.
Sometimes he's tired and seems forlorn
His happy face is lined and worn;
Yet he can smile when things are bad;
That's why I like my gray-haired dad.
He doesn't ask the world for much—
Just comfort, friendliness, and such;
But from the things I've heard him say,
I know it's up to me to pay
For all the deeds he's done for me
Since I sat on his rocking knee;
Oh, not in dollars, dimes, or cents—
That's not a father's recompense;
Nor does he worship wealth and fame—
He wants his pay in my good name.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wasn't God wonderful to furnish us as children with a dad? What greater joy has a man besides God than his family! What greater joy to be a Christian, than Jesus Christ who was God's Son. He loved us so much that He gave His life for us.

MONDAY, JUNE 19

Scripture Reading—John 5:17

NEVER FEAR!

Though at times the clouds hang low,
  Never fear!
Though the winds may fiercely blow,
  Never fear!
God is still upon His throne,
He is mindful of His own,
Let this blessed truth be known,
  Never fear!

Though at times the way seems long,
  Never fear!
Murmur not but sing a song,
  Never fear!
If you trust in God and pray,
Help to you He will convey,
You'll find roses by the way,
  Never fear!

Though a friend may prove untrue,
  Never fear!
Seek his friendship to renew,
  Never fear!
This one thing remember well:
Christ is our Immanuel,
He will ever with you dwell,
  Never fear!

Though the river may seem dark,
  Never fear!
With the Pilot you'll embark,
  Never fear!
"Jesus Saviour, pilot me,
Over life's tempestuous sea,"
Hear Him whisper tenderly,
  "Never fear!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should never fear because God is on our side. He is always willing to forgive us, no matter what the wrong may be. He is our friend and Saviour.

TUESDAY, JUNE 20

Scripture Reading—Psalm 94:20

WHY THE SENTENCE WAS REVOKED

The Lord has united all believers with an eternal bond, and it is His desire that that unity should be manifest in a practical way so that the world may see and believe. A practical demonstration of that unity occurred in a certain section of China where some missionaries had been laboring. One man came often to the services and seemed convicted of the Holy Spirit. One day he openly confessed that he was a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ and could no longer worship his ancestors in the usual manner. It was just at the New Year time that this occurred, at which time he was supposed to perform the usual rites of burning paper and incense to his ancestors. When he refused, the decision was given out by the head of his clan that unless he could recant within fifteen days he would be beaten with a thousand stripes. They would have been permitted to wreak this vengeance upon one of their own clan. As the fifteen days drew near, another native Christian went to visit the head of the clan; he said in substance, "You don't understand this Christian religion. When a man believes in the Lord Jesus Christ, God is his father and every other believer is his brother or sister. We are one family, and I could not see my brother beaten and stand idly by. What all we Christians propose to do is this: If you issist on carrying out your sentence, all of us in the country round about who are brothers and sisters are going to come and share those stripes with him. The parley went on all night. The head of the clan knew there would be trouble if members of another clan were beaten by them, so he finally sent apologies, saying that they did not understand the Christian religion or such a verdict would never have been passed. The unity of the Christians proved greater than the heathen powers, and the Lord was glorified.

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we love Jesus, and if we are Christians, we will want to do everything to please Him? He loves us so much!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

Scripture Reading—Colossians 3:13

GOD BOTH FORGIVES AND JUSTIFIES

When God forgives through the risen, glorified Jesus, He not only forgives, but He justifies. It is impossible for an earthly judge to both forgive and to justify a man. If a man is justified, he does not need to be forgiven. Imagine a man charged with a crime going into court, and, after the evidence is all in, he is pronounced not guilty, and the judge sets him free. Someone says, as he leaves the building, "I want to congratulate you. It was very kind of the judge to forgive you." "Forgive? He did not forgive me; I was justified. There is nothing to forgive." You cannot justify a man if he does a wicked thing, but you can forgive. God not only forgives but He justifies the ungodly, because He links the believer with Christ, and we are made "accepted in the Beloved."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus forgives all our sins and

wipes them away for us. Isn't it nice to have a friend like Him?

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 4:28

"THE BEGGAR DIED, AND WAS CARRIED. . ."

At a large public meeting Dr. A.T. Pierson told how once when he was collecting for some object a wealthy man said to him: "If I had to preach your funeral sermon, I should take the text, 'The beggar died.' "

Dr. Pierson replied, "I should have no objection if you will go on with the text. 'and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

It doesn't take money to go to Heaven. It just takes trusting and believing in the Lord Jesus Christ.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 17:10

THREE BOOKS TO BRING

A negro preacher walked into the office of a newspaper in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, and said: "Mista Edito, they is forty-seven of my congregation which suscribe fo' your paper. Do that entitle me to have a chu'ch notice in yo Sadday issue?"

"Sit down and write," said the editor.

"I thank you."

And this is the notice the minister wrote:

"Mount Moriah Baptist Church, the Rev. John Obadiah, pastor. Preaching morning and evening. In the promulgation of the Gospel three books is necessary: The Bible, the hymnbook, and the pocketbook. Come tomorrow and bring all three."

Other pastors than Pastor Obadiah and other churches than Mount Moriah may well send out word to everybody to bring these three books to church.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What three more important books to have than the Bible, a hymnbook, and your pocketbook? We must read the Bible, praise God by singing, and give our tithes to Him.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

Scripture Reading—Matthew 4:23

"THE LORD LOOKETH ON THE HEART"

A weary teacher fell asleep and had a dream. A message had arrived that the Master was coming, and to her was appointed the task of getting all the little children ready for him. So she arranged them on benches in tiers, putting the little white children first, nearest to where the Master would stand, then the little yellow, red, and brown children, and far back the black children. When all were arranged, she look and it did not seem quite right to her. Why should the black children be so far away? They ought perhaps to be on the front benches. She started to re-arrange them, but just as all was in confusion, footsteps were heard; it was the Master's tread. He was coming before the children were ready. To think that the task entrusted to her had not been accomplished in time! The footsteps drew near, and she was obliged to look up. Lo, as her eyes rested on the children all shades of color and difference had vanished: the little children in the Master's presence were all alike.

Man makes the mistake of looking upon the outward appearance, forgetting that God looketh on the heart.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus loves all the children of the world. Isn't He wonderful and isn't He your special friend? Aren't you glad to have Him?

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

If you have God's promise for a thing, isn't that enough?

POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE THINKING OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

by Agnes Wilson
Lucama, North Carolina

The subject of "Liquor by the Drink" has come up again. We have a lot of negative answers, but no distinct understanding of the evil of alcohol in any amount. It is the Christian way to say "think positive"; in other words, look on the bright side. Where alcohol is concerned, there is no bright side.

The danger is not so much to adults as to our young people. We adults will soon be passed through this world, and the young people will then be the adults. Why not teach these young people the evil of all alcohol?

The young like to follow the leader and too many get hooked on this drug without knowing the dangers. To them it is a big time. They are happy. They are doing their own thing, so they say. Look at them after they are hooked. Look at the tall strong bodies turned into walking zombies of the devil. Prisons are full of criminals that started out just to have a big time.

Look at the homes that are broken because this thing called alcohol had turned a perfectly healthy human being into an animal with no conscience whatsoever.

We find in Romans 1:29-32 a description that might well apply to those whose minds have been warped by alcohol as well as other drugs. If we continue to look at the bright or positive side and forget the negative side of this issue, the human race as we see it today will be destroyed.

Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed because of negative thinking. It is time Christian people begin to look on both sides of life and take a stand against such evil.

I personally don't think we need the revenue from this or any other evil at the expense of our young people. Our young people are the leaders of tomorrow. What kind of leaders or what kind of world will we have with a nation of degenerate zombies ruling it?

God gave us a clean world. Let's try cleaning it up.

"A Christian Home for Boys and Girls"

free will baptist children's home

MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

ALBEMARLE COTTAGE UNDERGOES REPAIRS



Albemarle Cottage

This summer while there are vacanies on our campus we are going to put a new roof on Albemarle Cottage. The houseparents' apartment in the cottage will also undergo some renovation. These repairs will get Albemarle ready for fall. The opening of school usually brings new applications for admittance and this fall we will be prepared by having the repairwork completed.

Several Laymen's League groups and Men's Fellowships plan to help us. Your group can help by coming to work on a weekend or by having a fund-raising project to help pay for these much-needed repairs.

FOUNDER'S DAY



Skit by Children

Founder's Day was observed at the Children's Home on Saturday, May 20

Our children portrayed the history of the Home in a skit written and directed by Miss Donna Glisson.



A. Graham Lane

The Rev. A. Graham Lane, former Board Chairman, spoke on behalf of our founders. "I wonder what they would think of their dream today," he said.



Burkette Raper

Alumnus Burkette Raper remarked that "these hills would always be the hills of home."



Charles Warren

Alumnus Charles Warren told us of incidents in his life when he lived at the Children's Home.



Lunch is Served

Everyone enjoyed lunch on the grounds after the services. The afternoon featured tours of the Home on an informal basis.

Founded in 1920, the Free Will Baptist Children's Home continues to offer a "Christian Home for Boys and Girls." It's a place where shattered lives and dreams are pieced together again. At the Home, children continue to find a place for growing, physically, emotionally and spiritually. The dreams and labors of our founders are a reality today. Let us who are building on that foundation laid long build with the same enthusiasm and dedication as did our forefathers, and may God be glorified.

WESTERN CONFERENCE MINISTERS MEET AT CHILDREN'S HOME



Ministerial Fellowship

On April 25 the Western Conference Ministerial Fellowship met at the Children's Home. A business session was followed by a presentation on the Home by the director, the Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey.

The Home would like to encourage other groups to plan to visit us for a program. Also, we'll be happy to visit your group whenever you meet to share our program of child care with you.

MOWER DONATED TO HOME



David Batchelor mows lawn.

Mr. Donald Batchelor tries out a new Mott mower given to the Children's Home by Mr. Henry Brewer of Parker's Barbecue of Wilson. This mower features blades that swing away when in rocks or rough terrain. Next time you see Mr. Brewer thank him for this gift which amounted to nearly $1,000.

THE ADMISSIONS QUESTION

As we visit our churches across the state we are frequently asked why we have only 58 children on campus when we have room for 72. It's not because children are being turned away. The basic reason is that applications are not coming in at this time as they have in the past. Social Services, as you know, does not place children with us due to our non-compliance stance; therefore, all our applications must come through private sources. Our church people and our pastors, friends and neighbors, who know of families that need help should recommend the Home to them. We have a service to offer the children and families of this state, but it's up to you as individuals to inform the people in your area that we can serve them. Do not hesitate to go to them, and, if necessary, come with them to the Home to make application.

Summers usually bring our largest number of discharges, while fall and the opening of school usually bring new applications.

Let's make full use of the capability God has given the Home and utilize every bed. At the same time, let's be sure to continue to support the Home in our prayers and our giving.

Obituary
LEON H. EDWARDS

by Nancy Edwards Matthews

Leon H. Edwards, Route 1, Kenly, departed this life, May 12, 1978, at the age of 71. His funeral was held in Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, of which he was a member, by the Rev. Billy Nowell, pastor, and the Rev. Foy Futrell, a former pastor. His body was laid to rest in the church cemetery. He was a retired farmer.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Flossie Woodall Edwards, seven children, eleven grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and one brother.

Leon Edwards was unique in that he was his own person—a maverick, firm in his beliefs, though he made no claims to piety. Though his words were few, his fundamental nature of generosity, kindness, and goodness came through. Much of his sparse conversation was controlled by a dry sense of humor. His nicknames for people and animals always seemed appropriate, and sometimes they stuck for life. Many of his comments were classics, unheard of before but uniquely humorous.

He took life as it came, and treated his hogs as friends. Had he one worry big enough to be visible, it must have been his relatives' and friends' nutrition. Why else would he give away hams, pecans, blueberries, and collards? He never bragged about the fish he caught, but you knew how much he enjoyed fishing by the glow he had when talking about his fishing trips.

His family, especially his wife, stood close during three years of delicate health, sometimes so close he must have felt smothered. How he must have longed desperately at times for a solitary walk across his fields and familiar paths through the woods. Due to his illness, this was impossible. No man could have asked for less attention than did Leon Edwards. And no man could have received more.

He must have known the end was near. A few days before he died, he made the statement, "Somebody's got to take my place."

No one can take his place. But as long as we are guided by his example of generosity, genuine honesty, unselfishness, and a sense of facing life with amusement, he is still in his place. A new dimension has merely been added to his life.

He has passed the dark tunnel,
He has passed pain and woe,
He has entered the light up above,
There's no sorrow or care,
Because Jesus is there,
In a land of great joy, peace, and love,
My Daddy.

IN MEMORY OF BARBARA ANN LANGSTON

God is His infinite mercy, came on May 22, 1978, and took one of His precious children home to be with Him in Heaven. Barbara Ann Langston said she was ready to go "home" and she finally made it.

The beauty of a soul is something to behold. To the very end, she witnessed Jesus and her love for Him. She touched numberless lives and influences the lives of people who had only heard of her.

She will be greatly missed by her family and friends and church. She was loved by all people with smiles and laughter because that would be how she would remember all of us. She also said that if we could remember her only tearfully—not to remember her at all.

So, good night, Barbara—we'll see you in the morning.

Lovingly submitted by
Fleedie Reynolds and
Spring Branch Church

PLAN TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO CRAGMONT THIS SUMMER.

NEWS & NOTES

Marsh Swamp Youth Have Been Busy

The Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist YFA, Route 1, Sims, sponsored a Senior Citizens Supper on Sunday night, May 21, in the church basement. Entertainment was led by Nancy Boykin, Debbie Winbourne, and Lisa Boykin. Twenty-eight persons over 50 years of age attended.

The YFA, along with the AFC, also participated in a rock-a-thon for Cragmont on May 6 in the basement of the church. Of the eight that began rocking at midnight, seven rocked until noon. Mrs. Shirley Strother, youth chairman, and other parents chaperoned the rockers and served breakfast. Over $400 was raised by the group.

Ordination Services White Oak Church

White Oak Original Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro, held a special service on May 31, at 7:30 p. m. Mr. Steve Hargrove was ordained as a minister from White Oak church.

The Rev. Billy Hardee of Elizabethtown, was the visiting minister for the service. Members of the Ordaining Council from the Pee Dee Association of Original Free Will Baptists were also present. Mr. Hargrove was given the right hand of fellowship and presented a Bible during the service. White Oak church is very proud to have one of its members called into the ministry for the Lord. He lives in Bladenboro with his wife, Wallie. They have two children, Grant, age 10; and Paula, age 6.

There was a social hour following the service in the church fellowship hall in honor of the Hargrove family. There was a beautiful assortment of dainty foods, and everyone present enjoyed the good Christian fellowship. The Ordaining Council of the Pee Dee Association were honored guests.

Graduation Day Observed White Oak Church

Graduation day was observed at White Oak Original Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro, May 28. There was one senior graduating from the church this year. His name is Dewey Hester. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Elery Hester of Bladenboro. The Rev. Steve Hargrove was in charge of the service.

Dewey is the assistant league director at the church, but the director asked him to perform the duties each week and he does an excellent job. He is very active in church work. White Oak church is very proud of him, and wish the very best for him as he makes his way in the world. Dewey was presented a Bible from the church for his graduation.

Bakers to Be at Pleasant Hill Church



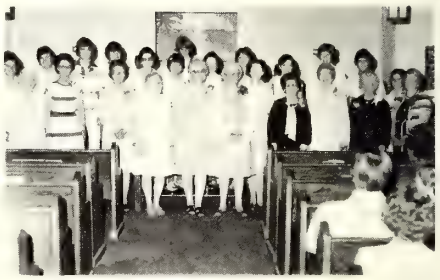
The Fred Bakers

The Rev. Fred and Linda Baker will be at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Pikeville, on June 18, at 7:30 p. m. to provide a study course on missions. Everyone is invited.

Missionary to Speak Tee's Chapel Church

The Rev. Fred Baker, a candidate to be a missionary to the Philippines, will speak at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, on Wednesday night, June 21, at 7:30 p. m. Tee's Chapel church is seven miles southeast of Smithfield on the Brodgen Road. The Rev. Billy Nowell, pastor, invites all to come and hear Mr. Baker.

White Oak Grove Youth Honor Ladies of Church



Ladies Honored

On Sunday, May 14, the YFA of White Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, LaGrange, honored all ladies 50-years-old and older. A poem, "Give Them the Flowers While They Live" was read by Julian Brown, and each lady received a rose corsage pinned on by members of the YFA.

Other recent activities included "Youth Sunday." The youth presented special music and were in charge of the services for the day. Services were dedicated to the pastor, the Rev. Jimmy Webster. Mr. Webster was also presented a book with some of his favorite poems. Each member of the YFA signed the book.

A steak supper was also sponsored recently by the YFA in the church fellowship hall. Approximately 100 people attended.

WA of General Conference to Meet at Pleasant Grove Church

The 1978 Session of the Woman's Auxiliary of the General Conference will convene with the Pleasant Grove Free

Will Baptist Church, Pikeville, on June 26 and 27, 1978. The convention theme will be "The Scarlet Thread." Devotion will be taken from Joshua 2:18; 6:22, 23. The scheduled program is as follows:

MONDAY

7:00 P.M.—Registration
7:30 P.M.—Youth Convention

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.—Hymn
—Devotion and Prayer, Mrs. Edna Fowler
—Welcome, Mrs. Lillie Mae Pender
—Response, Mrs. Dianne Lyons
—Special Music, Covenant Trio
—Opening of Convention, Mrs. R. H. Jackson
—Recognition of Officers, Delegates, and Ministers
—President's Remarks, Mrs. O.B. Jones
—Business Session
Minutes Read
Appointment of Committees
—Special Music, the Rev. and Mrs. Arnold Price
—Offering
—Hymn
—Special Music, Covenant Trio
—Speaker, Mrs. J. B. Starnes
—Lunch
1:30 P.M.—Hymn and Prayer
—Business
Committee Reports
Treasurer's Report
—Installation of Officers, Mrs. Louise Owens
—Singing and Testimony Time

Song Leader—Mrs. Alma Dale
Pianist—Marla Ard
Organist—Mrs. Charlotte Griffin

Week-End Revival Services
White Oak Church

White Oak Original Free Will Baptist Church, Bladenboro, has scheduled a weekend revival for June 21 through 25. The Rev. Hubert Bennett from Morehead City, will be in charge of the services, which will begin at 7:30 p. m. Special singing will be featured by local groups. White Oak will feature their junior, youth, and adult choirs, along with the White Oak Trio, Mrs. Huldah Kinlaw, Mr Jerry Brown, and the Good Times.

White Oak church and the congregation extend a cordial invitation for the public to come and worship.

MOUNT OLIVE

PAUL PALMER INSTITUTE INTRODUCED

The Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies, an outreach of Mount Olive College, is introducing educational programs to serve ministers or lay leaders unable to enroll as regular students in college or seminary.

The Institute will begin in the fall with classes scheduled on Monday nights. An individual may take two courses for eight weeks and take two more courses for a total of four courses over a sixteen-week period.

Each course will carry three units of credit, except in cases when four units of credit will be given for courses extending the sixteen-week period. Courses will include extended reading and research outside class.

The Basic Curriculum for laypersons will consist of forty-five units of credit and the Advanced curriculum will be sixty-four units.

Four areas of study include Biblical Studies, the Church and its Mission, Preparation for Pastoral Ministry, and General Studies. A certificate may be earned by meeting course requirements in either of the two curricula.

The Basic Curriculum is designed primarily for laypersons who wish to provide well-informed leadership in local churches or who simply wish to enrich their lives through a systematic program of study.

The Advanced Curriculum is designed to assist ministers who cannot enroll in a regular college curriculum to meet the requirements set by the conferences and administered by their ordaining councils.

Ministers who have received their credentials and are already serving churches will find that many of the courses in the Advanced Curriculum will provide valuable experiences in continuing education.

For more information concerning the Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies, contact Frank R. Harrison at Mount Olive College (658-2502) or at home (658-9363).

Course offerings will be released at a later date.

TRIBUTE TO ONE OF GOD'S CHILDREN— MISS ELLEN SMITH

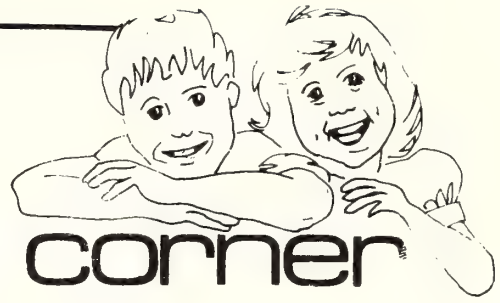
Miss Ellen Smith, age 85, was born February 19, 1893. Old? not yet. Active? Absolutely! Somewhat less active than 20 or 30 years ago, but still on the move for the cause of her Lord. Miss Smith is a member of long standing of Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church, near Deep Run. (She joined on September 27, 1910), and she is a positive-minded Free Will Baptist person.

Miss Ellen Smith has been attending the 3rd Union Sunday School Fellowship Suppers for as long as anyone can remember, rain or shine, cold or hot. She is as predictable in her attendance as an Amen at a camp meeting. You go and she is there. Lately, Miss Ellen has had some physical-health problems and she is unable to get about on her own without the use of a walker and someone to help her into and out of a car and into and out of the church. That faithful companion for the past several years has been Mrs. Joan Faulkner, a grand-niece who is a member of the White Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church. They make a twosome at our fellowship suppers. They are usually among the first people to arrive and they always stay for the business sessions.

Unlike many of us Free Will Baptists who can find reasons for not attending, Miss Ellen Smith makes no excuses for not going to the Fellowship Suppers. She is always present and always accounted for. Miss Ellen went to Daly's Chapel last winter when the temperature outside was 20 degrees and falling, but the temperature in her heart for her God was 100 degrees and rising.

Miss Ellen's favorite Bible verse is Romans 10:9: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

The Third Union Sunday School Fellowship would like to pay this tribute to Miss Ellen Smith, Free Will Baptist person for God, in good standing. Amen.



story corner

DAVID: THE GIANT KILLER

A few lessons ago, we learned about a little boy who was devoted to God and lived in His house. He was Samuel, the judge. Our story takes place during the time Samuel was judge over Israel.

The people were not satisfied with just a judge; they looked around them, and all of the other countries had kings. They went to Samuel and told him to find them a king. Samuel asked the Lord if it would be the thing to do. God told him it would be, and showed Samuel the man He had picked out to be the king. The new king was named Saul.

Saul was a tall man. He stood head and shoulders above any other. At first, Saul was a good king; but as he became more and more powerful, he became more and more wicked. He began to disobey the Lord.

God was not pleased with Saul. He decided that He would not allow the family of Saul to continue to be the rulers. He would start another line of kings.

In our last lesson we studied about Ruth. She was the great-grandmother of the person God had chosen for the new king.

God told Samuel that He was displeased with Saul and wanted Samuel to anoint a new king over Israel.

"But who will I anoint?"

"Go to the home of Jesse. He has a son I have picked out to be the new king."

Samuel went to the home of Jesse and asked to see his sons. "God has chosen one of your sons to be the next king over Israel."

Jesse was pleased and honored, "But which of my sons? I have eight."

"God will tell me which is the right one. Have them pass before me."

One by one they came before Samuel. Each time Samuel said to himself, "Surely this is the one"; and each time God said, "No."

Finally, after they had stopped coming, Samuel turned to Jesse and said, "This is not all. Have you no more sons?"

Jesse replied, "I have but one other. He is just a boy. He is out in the pastures keeping my sheep."

Samuel had them send for David. When he appeared before Samuel, God said, "This is the one. Anoint him."

David was ruddy, healthy and good-looking. When you saw him, you would especially notice his beautiful eyes.

Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed David as the next king of Israel.

Saul, the king, was becoming very wicked, and his conscience would bother him at times. He would become very upset and only beautiful music would be able to calm him.

David played the harp. When he played, it seemed as if the very air would stop and listen, it was so beautiful! Saul heard of this little shepherd boy who could play such music. He did not know that God had anointed him to be the next king.

Saul sent for David to play for him when he became upset. David came, and his music had a soothing effect on the king: it would calm him and make him feel so wonderful; Saul loved David and made him his special armor-bearer. David's duties were to carry the shield before the king into battle to keep enemy spears and arrows from killing the king. When they weren't in battle, David would be with the king to play for him.

Israel entered into war with the Philistines, and David's older brothers had to go with the army. His father was old and needed help with the sheep. David went home to help while the brothers were at war.

It seemed as if the army of Israel was going to be defeated. Israel had camped on a mountain and the Philistines were on the next mountain. There was a valley between them. Down in the valley, the Philistines had sent a man. He was challenging the Jews.

This was no ordinary man. He was a giant. As we have told you, King Saul was taller than any other in Israel; but this man was far taller than Saul. He was a little over nine feet tall.

He cried out to the Jews in a loud voice, "Choose a man and send him down to fight me. If I kill him, you shall be our slaves. If he kills me, my people shall become your slaves."

All of the Jewish army was afraid, even the king. No one would volunteer to fight the giant, Goliath. Each day, Goliath would stand in the valley and call to them.

During this time David's father, Jesse, was anxious to hear news from his sons at the battle front. He did not have a way to hear the news of battles. There were no radios, televisions, telephones, or even newspapers. This was long, long before the days of these inventions. The only way news could be carried was by someone riding on a donkey or walking.

Jesse packed a basket of food and sent David with it to the army camp. David was to deliver it to his brothers and find out how they were faring.

While David was talking to his brothers, Goliath came out again, as he had done for forty days. He again spoke the same words. The Jewish soldiers were afraid and fled.

David asked what was happening, and he was told that Saul had offered to give his daughter as a wife to the man who would fight Goliath; he would also make him a rich man.

David was very angry because the soldiers were so afraid. He told them that they should go and kill Goliath. His brothers became angry with him. They thought of him as a little boy talking as if he were brave and strong. They tried to send him away.

But David went to King Saul and offered to go and fight the giant.

Saul told David that he could not go and fight the giant because he was so young. "Goliath has fought in wars since he was a youth."

But David told the king of lions and bears he had killed while he was tending the sheep. "The Lord delivered me out of the paw of the bear and He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine."

Saul gave his permission and bade David put on his armor so that he could be protected from the great spear of Goliath. David tried it on, but it was so big he could not move. Saul gave him his spear, bow and sword; but they were so heavy and big that David could not use them.

David would not try to take them. He took his shepherd's staff in his hand and carried his sling. On the way, he picked up five smooth stones from beside the brook.

When Goliath saw David coming, he was angry. He thought the Israelites were making fun of him by sending a boy. He called to David, "Am I a dog that you should come after me with a stick?"

David called to the giant, "You come to me with a spear, a sword and a shield: but I come to you in the name of the Lord of Israel. This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the bodies of the Philistines this day unto the birds of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel."

This made the giant very angry. He ran to meet David with his spear. David took a small smooth stone from the bag on his shoulder. He put it in his sling and threw it. The stone hit Goliath right between the eyes in his forehead. He fell to the earth dead. David ran and stood upon the giant, took his sword out of the sheath of Goliath and cut off his head.

When the rest of the Philistines saw what had happened to Goliath, they fled. The Jews ran after them and killed them.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

SUPPOSE YOU COULD GO BACK?

All of us, at one time or another, think about our past life. And many times we wish that we could go back and change some of the deeds done and the words spoken. Recently a friend of mine shared the following poem with me. With his permission I would like to share it with You:

LIFE'S PATHWAY

I would like to go back o'er life's pathway,
And retrace every footstep I've trod,
And remove the rough spots where I stumbled,
Erase every vestige and clod.
I would like to go back o'er life's journey,
And retract each harsh word that I've said,
I would soothe every heart, bruised or broken,
And place a kind word in their stead.
When at the end of life's journey,
I am asked my life's story to tell,
There would be no rough spots on my pathway,
No trace where I stumbled or fell.

By: J. Ray Etheridge

This poem was written by a man in his forties who has recently come to know Christ in all His fullness. Brother Ray Etheridge, his wife, Ann, and their three children, Gina, Morris, and Horace, have been an inspiration to all of us at Spring Branch church since joining us a few months ago. Brother Ray wrote this poem as he reflected on his past life and as he saw things in a different light through Christ.

Suppose we could go back—but we can't. So look up! All is not lost. For at anytime, like Brother Ray, we can start all over again. And this time with Christ.

Respectfully submitted,
Royce Reynolds, Pastor
Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church

MINISTERS' FELLOWSHIP

All Central Conference ministers and those pastoring churches in the Central Conference are invited to join them in a time of fellowship and sharing. They plan to meet at the Three Steers Restaurant in Greenville at 11 a.m., on June 26. They will share a meal together and take part in an informal program designed to help the pastor of today.

The restaurant will provide a special steak dinner at the price of $3.05 each, including tips. However, you may order any other item on the menu if you wish.

Please make plans to be with them on Monday, June 26, and help them keep the Ministers' Fellowship alive.

Coming Events . . .

June 19—Revision Committee will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, at 10 a. m.

June 26—Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship at 11 a. m., Three Steers Restaurant, Greenville

June 27—Woman's Conference, 10 a.m., registration 9:30 a.m., (General Conference), Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville

July 11—Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet at 10 a.m., at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina

July 17-20—Minister's Conference, Cragmont Assembly

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For June 25

SUCCESS AND PERSECUTION

Lesson Text: Acts 17:1-13
Memory Verse: Acts 17:3

I. INTRODUCTION

Our printed text for last Lord's Day concluded with Acts 16:34, which told of the joyful celebration of the conversion of the Philippian jailer and his household. The next day representatives of the legal authorities who had sentenced Paul and Silas arrived at the prison. Their message was that the prisoners might now be released. We wonder why, if it was contemplated they would be set free the next day, so much precaution had been taken to "keep them safely." In any case, the prisoners refused to leave until they were escorted from their cell by the authorities.

Paul pointed out that he and Silas were Roman citizens and had been beaten and confined without any trial or formal legal proceeding. No doubt the officials of Philippi had assumed they were only traveling Jewish teachers of some kind who had caused trouble. The information conveyed to the authorities that they had acted rashly and illegally agitated them. They came and, apparently, apologized to Paul and Silas, personally led them out of the prison, and asked them to leave town, please, to avoid further trouble.

After being released Paul and Silas went to Lydia's home where some of the brethren were then gathered together. After giving an account of their adventure and encouraging the young church to be steadfast, they departed. It may be presumed that the jailer and his people, as new converts, were commended to the love and care of the fellowship.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. At Thessalonica, Paul followed his usual custom of going to the synagogue. He was a Jew, and had a great love for his fellow-Jews, therefore he was willing to risk persecution and trouble so some would believe the gospel and be saved. Are we willing to risk the goodwill of our friends so they might believe and be saved?

B. The Thessalonians stirred up the criminal element of the city against Paul. Furthermore, they charged him with something that was untrue. This should help us understand the lengths to which Satan and his followers will go to stop the gospel from being preached.

C. Wherever Paul went and gave the gospel, some believed and were saved. It did not matter that the majority did not become Christians, nor did it matter that he was driven out of the city. To measure Paul's ministry by his popularity is to say he failed: but his ministry is rightly measured by the lasting good he accomplished. He was a great success.

D. Note that Paul had a more difficult time in Thessalonica than in Berea. The people in Berea were "more noble" than those in Thessalonica. One might expect Paul to have been more successful in Berea, but the opposite seems true. He left enough believers in Thessalonica to start a church, to which he later sent two of the epistles that are in the New Testament. But after he left Berea, we never hear of it again in the New Testament.

E. It has been said that you can tell something about a man by what moves his emotions. In Athens, Paul was greatly moved by the idolatry that he saw. This says something about the kind of person he was. It also tells us something about the intensity of his belief, in Christ, and how deeply he loved his fellowman.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. It has been said that wherever Paul went and preached the gospel he either started a revival or a riot, or, in some instances, both. His enemies said he "turned the world upside down." In a sense, this may have been true, but it is unfair to Paul. He knew the world was upside down because of sin, and his main objective was to turn it "right side up" for Jesus.

B. Year in and year out we have our so-called "revivals," many of which turn out to be mere "protracted meetings," with perhaps good preaching and singing and abundant fellowship. A real revival does more than this; it changes things.

C. A minister in a certain village was given a contribution by the storekeeper each year when the annual revival was held. The merchant said that the revival always resulted in people paying debts, as well as in other good benefits. This merchant was not a Christian, yet he knew that a revival had its value. Our local revivals may not turn the world right side up, but they should have a great effect on the church and community. If the power of the Holy Spirit came into them as it did the work of Paul and his co-workers, they would have such an effect.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

"Bulletin of Atomic Science"—"In Chicago there is published a monthly magazine entitled the **Bulletin of Atomic Science**. Soon after the dropping of the first atomic bomb, that magazine carried on its first page the picture of a clock, the clock of civilization, and that clock had its hands set at 11:52—eight minutes until midnight. When the news was made public that Russia also had the atomic bomb and that we were beginning production of a hydrogen bomb many times more powerful than the atomic bomb, the next issue of the magazine changed its clock hands. They were set then at 11:56—four minutes of midnight."

—Selected

Auxiliaries IN Action

WOMAN'S CONFERENCE TO MEET AT CAMP VANDEMERE

June 19 through 23 will be the date of the Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere. "To Glorify God" will be the theme. The theme song will be "From Glory to Glory." The Scripture will be taken from Romans 15:6. There will be a week of activity. The scheduled program is as follows:

Monday

10:00—Check in
11:00—Devotions, Mrs. Rena Kirk, District Vice President
12:00—Lunch
2:00—Music
3:30—Bible Study, Mrs. Lois Everington, Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church
4:30—See Camp Vandemere with the Rev. Willie Stilley
6:00—Supper
8:00—Evening Worship, Dr. Burkette Raper, President, Mount Olive College
—Memorial Service

Tuesday

8:00—Breakfast
9:00—Devotions, Mrs. Clara Elmore, Kinston Free Will Baptist Church
10:00—Crafts
12:00—Lunch
2:00—Music
3:30—Bible Study, Mrs. Versie Baldree, St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church
6:00—Supper
8:00—Evening Worship, the Rev. Don Gray, Gray Branch Free Will Baptist Church

Wednesday

8:00—Breakfast
9:00—Devotions
10:00—Music
10:30—Films on "Trip to Holy Land," Hulon Whitehead
11:30—Lunch
12:00—Leave on Bus to New Bern, Tryon Palace
6:00—Supper
8:00—Concert (Outdoor), the Heaven Bound, the Prescott Family
—Devotions, the Rev. Ray Williamson, Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church

Thursday

8:00—Breakfast
9:00—Devotions, Mrs. Adaline Gray, District Mission Chairman
10:00—Crafts
12:00—Lunch
2:00—Music
3:30—Bible Study, the Rev. Ed Miles, Returned Missionary from the Philippines
6:00—Supper
8:00—Evening Worship, the Rev. and Mrs. Fred Baker, Missionaries who will leave for the Philippines in October.

Friday

8:00—Breakfast
9:00—Devotion, Mrs. Bertha Thompson, Oriental Free Will Baptist Church
10:00—Check out

Guests will be Camp Vandemere Board of Directors. Special music will be given each night by choirs from different churches. Go spend the entire week! Everyone deserves and needs a vacation.

Happy Taylor, Director
Nina Grace Register, Assistant

WOMAN'S CONFERENCE CAMP VANDEMERE



Ladies serve cake

On Saturday, June 3, the Ladies Auxiliary of Frement Free Will Baptist Church, Fremont, served fresh strawberry shortcake to residents of the Fremont Rest Center.

Ladies from the auxiliary were Mrs. Sadie Peele, Mrs. Dolly Sauls, Mrs. Myrutle Ivey, Mrs. Belle Proctor, and Mrs. Geraldine Peele.

Churches and Ministers Available

Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, near Wilson, is in search of a pastor. If interested, please contact Mr. Lloyd Wiggs Jr. at Route 4, Wilson, North Carolina 27893 or by phoning 237-6248. If there is no answer, please dial 291-1390, Turner Oil Company, in Wilson.

The Rev. Harry A. Jones announces that he will be available for pastoral work at the end of June. His present address is Rev. Harry A. Jones, Route 1, Box 430, Dover, North Carolina 28526. He may be contacted by phoning 527-3262 or 527-8459.

The Rev. James Warren of Kinston announces that he is available for a full-time church. Mr. Warren is a member of the Eastern Conference and in good standing with the conference. Any Original Free Will Baptist church in need of a full-time pastor may contact Mr. Warren at the following address: Rev. James E. Warren, 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501; or by phoning 527-1548.

June: CRAGMONT MONTH

1978 CAMP SCHEDULE

Cragmont will be opened May 15 through October 31, 1978. The scheduled conferences are as follows:

JUNE 19-24: GENERAL YOUTH CONFERENCE—The Rev. John Williams, director-registrar, Route 2, Wilson, North Carolina 27893; phone: (919) 237-8938.

JUNE 26—JULY 1: CHRISTIAN CADETS CONFERENCE—The Rev. Bobby Taylor, director-registrar, Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, North Carolina 28590; phone: (919) 756-2391.

JULY 3-8: YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (YFA, ages 13 and up)—Mrs. D. W. "Ma" Hansley, director-registrar, Route 4, Box 163, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551; (919) 566-3621.

JULY 10-15: YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (AFC, ages 9-12)—Mrs. D.W. "Ma" Hansley, director-registrar, Route 4, Box 163, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551; phone (919)566-3621.

JULY 17-20: MINISTERS' CONFERENCE—The Rev. Walter Reynolds, director, P. O. Box 514, Winterville, North Carolina 28590; phone (919) 756-6587.

JULY 30—AUGUST 5: YOUNG PEOPLES BIBLE CONFERENCE—The Rev. J.B. Starnes, director-registrar, Route 3, Box 123, Newport, North Carolina 28570; phone: (919) 223-4750.

AUGUST 7-12: WOMAN'S CONFERENCE—Mrs. Dola Dudley, director; Mrs. Lillie Mae Sasser, registrar, Route 2, Box 497, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

AUGUST 14-18: FAMILY WEEK—The Rev. Douglas Skinner, director-registrar, c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 N. Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711; phone: (704) 669-7677.

The cost for youth encampments at Cragmont this summer will be $50 (unless a change is made later). The registration fee is $7 with the remainder due upon boarding the bus. The Woman's Conference will be $50 per person including the $10 registration fee. Send your name, address, sex, age, and registration fee to the registrar of the conference you desire to attend. There is no preregistration for the Ministers' Conference.

Rates: Motel room rates per night: one person, $4; two persons, $6; three persons, $7.50; four or more persons, $9.

Rooms in other buildings per night: $2.

Meals: adults, breakfast, $1.50; lunch or dinner, $1.75; children (12 and under), breakfast, $1.00; lunch or dinner, $1.25.

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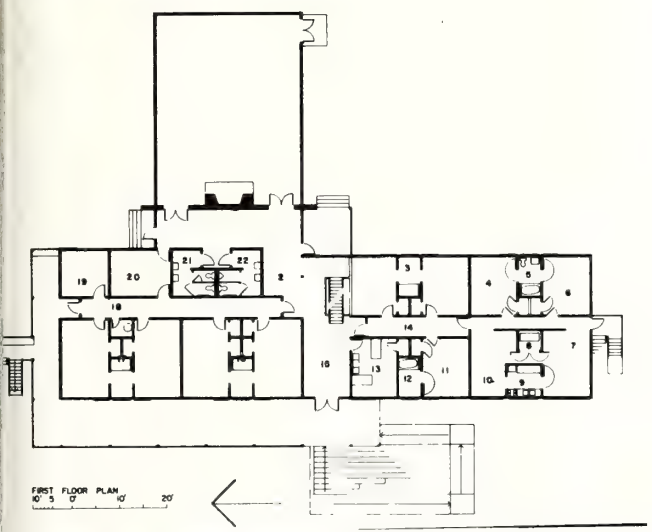
CRAGMONT—

WHERE MOUNTAINTOP EXPERIENCES ARE REAL— AND LASTING. . . .

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IE OLD—THE NEW

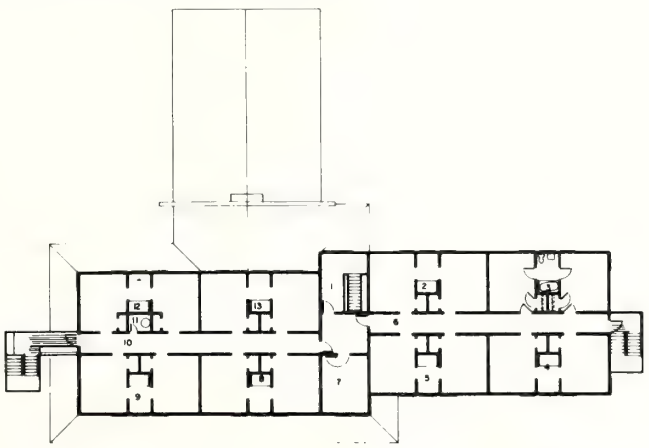
JUNE: CRAGMONT MONTH



FIRST FLOOR PLAN: 1-Chapel-Assembly; 2-Lobby; 3-Suite of staff rooms; 4-Apartment-
oom; 5-Apartment Bathroom; 6-Apartment Bedroom; 7-Living Room; 8-Washer/Dryer; 9-
en; 10-Dining Room; 11-Sick Room; 12-Bathroom; 13-Office; 14-Corridor; 15-Entrance; 16-
of rooms with 2 closets and 1 toilet; 17-Suite of rooms with 2 closets and 1 toilet; 18-
dor; 19-Storage or Study; 20-Storage; 21-Women's Restroom; 22-Men's Restroom.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Designed by
John E. Reid, Architect



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

SECOND FLOOR PLAN: 1-Stair lobby; 2-Suite of rooms; 3-Suite of rooms; 4-Suite of rooms; 5-Suite of rooms; 6-Corridor; 7-Study; 8-Suite of rooms; 9-Suite of rooms; 10-Corridor; 11-Laundry Chute; 12-Suite of rooms; 13-Suite of rooms.

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JUNE 21, 1978

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist**. The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY: WHERE THE LORD IS

June: Cragmont Month

In the mountains of North Carolina, located specifically just north of the small town of Black Mountain on North Fork Road, is a hallowed spot called Cragmont Assembly. Some 32 years have passed since its establishment as a Free Will Baptist camp in 1946.

At least three generations have enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere Cragmont affords: grandmothers, grandfathers; mothers, fathers; daughters, sons; and even their granddaughters and grandsons. This span of years (age wise) seems too broad until one is reminded that Cragmont offers accommodations during the summer and early fall for *all* age aroups.

Ministers', women's, general, and several youth conferences are held during scheduled weeks; and weekends are open for family and church groups. Thus, *all* the people of the denomination (and many visiting persons) are served—and served well.

One could ask, "What is the importance of this somewhat remote spot to our denomination, or to our *people* especially? What does it have to offer?" One of the most ardent supporters of the institution summed up its purpose (and therefore, what it offers) in three well-chosen words: *Inspiration, Instruction,* and *Recreation.*

Cragmont, then, is more than a summer youth camp. As a former director of conferences, I remember coming away blessed to the extent that I had difficulty containing myself. After a week of work, instruction and fun activities, and inspirational programs (in which the campers participated enthusiastically and in great number), I felt a closer relationship to the Father and a newer awareness of His greatness and love. Each experience was awe-inspiring.

There is *something* about the place that really defies description. It gets in your blood, your heart, and your soul. And I dare say that anyone who has ever attended an encampment there will attest to a keener realization of what Christian living, brotherhood, and love are all about! You cannot visit Cragmont without sensing an indescribable lift—that proverbial *mountaintop experience.*

One respected minister once said, "You get out of something exactly what you put into it—except *more.*" Most of us associated with Cragmont can relate to that assumption; and anyone who knows anything at all about Cragmont cannot think of the sacred place without coupling that thought with a love for the Rev. L. E. Ballard. Mr. Ballard, while not the only advocate of "Cragmontism," is perhaps the most *devoted* of such advocates. He has preached Cragmont for as long as I can remember, and has preached it well.

With his wife, Gertrude (one of the best examples of virtuous womanhood I've been privileged to know), Mr. Ballard has touched the lives of uncountable young people. If anyone ever loved a place, he and Mrs. Ballard loved (and still love) Cragmont Assembly. Their names have become synonymous with it and its purpose.

We would not forget the other managers who have put their designs on Cragmont. They are not to be discounted, for their contributions, too, are noteworthy. The present managers, the Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, are working diligently to preserve the dignity and aim of this valued institution—and with good success.

A major concern at this time, during June, Cragmont Month, is the fact that we must continue to support this aspect of denominational work. *Prayers* are good; *offerings* are good—and needed—for the continued success. But perhaps more important, and further, a primary reason for the establishment of the assembly, are *our young people.* Parents, do yourself a favor. Send your children to at least one of the several conferences offered for youth. They will be blessed, and so will you.

Lift up your eyes unto the hills from whence cometh your help. Your help is in the Lord; and the Lord dwells in majesty at Cragmont! Don't deprive yourself or your family the heavenly benefits that can be yours.

PARSONAGE LIFE:

THE WIFE'S VIEWPOINT

submitted by DeW. Eakes

(Continued from last week)

by Marilyn Brown Oden



Two Kinds of Values

IN recent years the study of values clarification has become popular. There are two kinds of values: our peripheral or conditional values, which are fairly easy to change, and our central or unconditional values, which are part of the core of our being and are changed, if at all, only with great pain. Our deepest commitments are central values and even in the midst of upheaval have remained with us. They stand as stabilizing, and yet dynamic, constants in the chaos of change. As our problems have increased, our opportunities, based upon these commitments, have broadened.

First, it seems to me that today we as ministers and ministers' spouses are freer to struggle openly toward our potential and to express our individuality—the uniqueness God has given each of us. In spite of the many changes that have taken place, there are still, of course, those parishioners with stereotyped expectations of ministers (who, of course, are all male!) and their wives who try to put certain wrappings around us. And there are still those ministers and their wives who put themselves into the box in the first place. But we do not have to play this game. We are free to participate in the church family, not just as the minister or the minister's spouse, but as Christians. We have an opportunity to be ourselves, warts and all.

It is also our opportunity to serve as ourselves. I am not speaking of serving out of expediency—in order to get a bigger church, or to become a District Superintendent, or to be elected to General Conference. Neither am I speaking of serving out of duty because we are ministers and ministers' spouses. Wouldn't we try to model our lives after Jesus Christ even if we did not share the professional ministry? And wouldn't we want our children to do so also? There is no need to tell a child that he or she has to do something, or cannot do something, because of being a "preacher's kid." Ministers' families worship and do the things we do because that is part of what it means to be a Christian family—which we would be regardless of profession. A passage from Joshua is appropriate: It does not say: "Therefore, we also will serve the Lord, for the minister is our spouse." It says: "Therefore, we also will serve the Lord, for He is our God." When I speak of serving as ourselves, I am speaking about our opportunity to serve faithfully in the moment, wherever we are, as all the possibilities and risks of that moment unfold simply in response to the marvelous love of God.

And finally, it is our opportunity to share in a deeper fellowship. We can care for others, recognize their uniqueness and worth, not as ministers or ministers' spouses to parishioners, but as Christians interacting with fellow human beings. Buber spoke of relating as "I-Thou" rather than as "I-it." We have an opportunity to build a supportive community in our family, in our church, in groups for ministers and their spouses. I do not believe that an authentic support system would have been possible a few years ago among diverse congregations or groups for ministers and spouses. Our diversity was a source of fear and suspicion. Our growth together was paralyzed by polarization. Perhaps we were afraid that God, or the Word, or Jesus Christ, or the church would fall in the face of chance and authenticity. But we have come through a hurricane—and we survived. We have experienced damage—some panes have been blown out and there are holes in the roof. But these allow a fresh breeze to blow on old patterns and the sun to warm our fellowship. We are currently experiencing an openness to one another that did not exist a decade ago.

Being ourselves, serving as ourselves, and becoming a supportive community—these opportunities have always existed, but they are broader in this new day.

"For everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven." Our season is one of change, of problems, of opportunities. To update **The Minister's Wife: Person or Position?** is to move beyond the tranquility of the Fifties and the turmoil of the Sixties. It is to change title, acknowledgments, pre-women's-lib notions, etc. But along with these, to reaffirm the faith, Jesus Christ as our model, and the meaningful life as one that speaks and acts the word of love.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 25

Scripture Reading—Luke 1:15

THE GREATEST NEED

"South America needs missionaries full of the Holy Ghost and power. None other need apply. Argentina has plenty of missionaries of the employee type, but few preaching in the power of the Spirit, night after night, to open confession of Christ and abandonment of all sin. My heart bleeds for this need. Are there no young evangelists, their work already owned of God, who will come, pay the price really to dominate the Spanish language, and then pour the oil of God upon these South American multitudes?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The world needs missionaries everywhere to tell the gospel of Christ, there are so many lost souls.

MONDAY, JUNE 26

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 5:6

HOME

It takes a heap of livin' in a house to make it home,
A heap of sun and shadow, and ye sometimes have t'roam
Afore ye really 'preciate the things ye lef' behind.
An' hunger for them somehow with them allus on yer mind.
It don't make any difference how rich ye get t'be.
How much yer chairs and tables cost, how great your luxury;
It ain't home t'ye, though it be the palace of a King,
Until somehow your soul is sort of wrapped round everything.
Home ain't a place that gold can buy, or get up in a minute,
Afore it's home there's got to be some babies born, and then
Right there ye've got to bring them up t' women good and men,
And gradjerly, as times goes on, ye find ye wouldn't part
With anything they ever used—they've grown right in your heart.
The old high chair, the playthings, too, the little shoes they wore,
Ye hoard: and if ye could ye'd keep the thum-marks on the door.

Ye've got to weep to make it home, ye've got to sit and sigh,
And watch beside a loved one's bed, and know that death is nigh,
An' close the eyes of her that smiled, and leave her sweet voice dumb.
For these are scenes that grip the heart, an' when your tears have dried,
Ye find the home is dearer than it was, an' sanctified.
An' tuggin at ye always are the pleasant memories
Of her that was, and is no more—ye can't escape from these.

Ye've got to sing and dance for years, ye've got to romp and play,
An' learn t'love the things ye have, by usin' them each day.
Even the roses round the door must bloom year by year.
Afore they come a part of ye, suggestin' some one dear
Who used to love 'em long ago and trained 'em jes' to run
The way they do, so's they would get the early mornin' sun.
Ye've get t' love each brick an' stone, from cellar up t' dome,
It takes a heap of livin' in a house t'make it home.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you know the difference between the words, house and home? Anybody can have a house, but not everybody has a home. A home has love in it.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27

Scripture Reading—Luke 8:15

HOW TO GIVE A GOOD TESTIMONY

A boy, twelve years old, was the important witness in a lawsuit. One of the lawyers, after cross-questioning him severely said, "Your father has been telling you how to testify, hasn't he?" "Yes," said the boy. "Now," said the lawyer, "just tell us how your father told you to testify." "Well!" said the boy modestly, "Father told me the lawyers would try to tangle me in my testimony; but if I would just be careful and tell the truth, I could tell the same thing every time."

PRAYER THOUGHT

To give a good testimony stick to the truth and don't change your mind about any of the story. Tell the truth! God will love you for it.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 4:5

MOTHER'S EXAMPLE WINS!

A fine college student, a senior, said to me after I preached a series of evangelistic sermons.

"I have heard all your sermons on the deity of Christ, the inspiration of the Scriptures, the efficacy of the atoning blood and can answer the logic of everyone of them; but a few weeks ago as I stood with our mourning family by the grave of my invalid mother, and as loving friends lowered her crippled little body into the ground, I said, 'I cannot answer the argument and logic of that wonderful life.' " He said, "I want that which made my mother what she was." And in a few minutes he found that Saviour, not by the power of logic, but by the power of a quiet, godly life.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How did you find God? Do you find Him by looking around you and seeing the beautiful world? Do you read about Him in your Bible? Do you listen to the pastor on Sunday mornings? Do you find Him by praying? If not, please try these!

THURSDAY, JUNE 29

Scripture Reading—Psalm 117:2

BREAD UPON THE WATERS

There were once two boys working their way through Leland Stanford University. Their funds got low and the idea came to one of them to engage Paderewski for a piano

recital, and devote the profits to their board and tuition. The pianist's manager asked for a guarantee of $2,000. The boys proceeded to stage the concert, but the proceeds totaled only $1,600. The boys sought the great artist and told him of their efforts. They gave him the entire $1,600 and a promissory note for $400, explaining that they would earn the amount at the earliest possible moment. "No, boys, that won't do." Then, tearing the note, he returned the money to the boys, and said, "Now take out of the $1,600 all of your expenses, and keep for each of you 10 percent of the balance for your work, and let me have the rest." The years rolled by. The war came, and Paderewski was striving with might and main to feed the thousands of his beloved Poland. There was only one man in the world who could help Paderewski. Thousands of tons of food began to come into Poland for distribution by the Premier. After the starving people were fed, Paderewski journeyed to Paris to thank Herbert Hoover for the relief sent him. "That's all right, Mr. Paderewski," was Mr. Hoover's reply. "Besides you don't remember how you helped me once when I was a student at college, and I was in a hole."

PRAYER THOUGHT

When our days seem blue and we are down, God looks after us. He cares for you.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:22

THE LIGHT

A tender child of summers three,
Seeking her little bed at night,
Paused on the dark stair timidly,
"Oh, Mother, take my hand," said she,
"And then the dark will all be light."

We older children grope our way,
From dark behind to dark before;
And only when our hands we lay,
Dear Lord, in Thine, the night is day,
And there is darkness nevermore.

Reach downward to the sunless days
Wherein our guides are blind as we,
And faith is small and hope delays;
Take Thou the hands of prayer we raise,
And let us feel the light of Thee.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said that He was the Way, the Truth, and the Light. What better light to guide you as a little child of His?

SATURDAY, JULY 1

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:1

WHAT ARE CHRISTIANS FOR?

A Christian woman who was engaged in work for the poor and degraded was once spoken to by one who was well acquainted with both the worker and those whom she sought to reach.

"It does seem wonderful to me that you can do such work," her friend said. "You sit beside these people, and talk with them in a way that I do not think you would if you knew about them, just what they are, and from what places they come."

Her answer was, "Well, I suppose they are dreadful people. But, if the Lord Jesus were now on earth, are they not the very people He would strive to teach? Would He feel Himself too good to go among them? And am I better than my Master?"

A poor, illiterate person, who stood listening to this conversation, said with great earnestness and simplicity, "Why, I always thought that was what Christians were for." The objector was silenced, and what wonder? Is not that what Christians are for?

PRAYER THOUGHT

What a wonderful feeling to show to the world that you are a Christian! So what you say and do certainly tells others that you are a Christian.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: Does the Bible prophesy that Russia and other European nations will unite in conflict against the modern state of Israel and that their invading armies will be destroyed in Palestine?

Answer: Many scholars think that Ezekiel 38 and 39 refer to these eventualities. The second verse of Chapter 38 says, "Son of war, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him.—**The Scofield Reference Bible** (Page 883) says of this passage that ". . . the primary reference is to the northern (European) powers, headed up by Russia, . . . The whole passage should be read in connection with Zechariah 12:1-4; 14:1-9; Matthew 24:14-30; Revelation 14:14-20; 19:17-21. 'Gog' is the prince. 'Magog,' his land. The reference to Meshech and Tubal (Moscow and Tobolsk) is a clear mark of identification. Russia and the northern powers have been the latest persecutors of dispersed Israel, and it is congruous both with divine justice and with the covenant (e. g. Genesis 15:18, note; Deuteronomy 30:3, note) that destruction should fall at the climax of the last mad attempt to exterminate the remnant of Israel in Jerusalem. The whole prophecy belongs to the yet future 'day of Jehovah' (Isaiah 2:10-22; Revelation 19:11-21), and to the battle of Armageddon (Revelation 16:14; 19:19, note), but includes also the final revolt of the nations at the close of the kingdom-age (Revelation 20:7-9)."

Question: Why do pictures of the Lord's Supper show Jesus and His disciples sitting at the table rather than reclining as was the custom in those days?

Answer: George H. Sandison answers this question in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered:**

"Artistic conceptions have certainly varied greatly in the treatment of this subject. Some painters have apparently discarded Oriental forms and customs, in order to produce a picture that would be less strange, yet no less impressive in the eyes of their own countrymen. A few, like, Tissot, have adhered closely to the Eastern standards, Italian painters have given us the Last Supper as a classic Italian scene, and German, Dutch and English artists have each given their own national interpretation of the subject. They painted for their own time and their own people, and unless they had had the advantage of travel and study in the Orient they could not have done otherwise. Strict accuracy was apparently held as of less importance than a noble and beautiful ideal."

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"

mission work . . .

at home and abroad.

Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
Director—Treasurer
P. O. Box 979
Goldsboro, N. C. 27530

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
Fayetteville, N. C. 28305

MORE THAN A THOUSAND WORDS



Bobby Murray and His Mother

Pictured are, the Rev. Bobby Murray and his mother, Mrs. Edna Fowler, on the night of his ordination recently at Victory Mission. He is a true example of the old saying that one picture can say more than a thousand words. Mr. Murray expects to continue to be involved in home missions and the church extension work.

CAPE COLONY IS BUILDING



Cape Colony Mission

The Cape Colony Mission building is nearing completion. The pastor, the Rev. Johnny Sexton wants all of his Free Will Baptist friends to know, that they really appreciate the prayers and support they have received. Mr. Sexton also wants to acknowledge and thank his dear friend, Mr. Walter Barnes, who is in the building business for his generous contribution to this building project. Mr. Sexton said that without Mr. Barnes we could not have built the building at this time.

CATALPA MISSION ANNUAL HOMECOMING



Homecoming at Catalpa Missions

The Catalpa Mission of Fayetteville held its annual homecoming on May 28. The pastor, the Rev. Alton Howard reports that it was a wonderful experience. Members from the neighboring churches came to help spread lunch and join in the celebration. On hand were members of Haymount Mission, Victory Mission, and Eastwood church. The progress at Catalpa Mission has been outstanding. They are the first of our state sponsored missions to completely finish and furnish their building to include a sanctuary and Sunday school rooms. Finacing was done by the Church Finance Corporation.

WINTERGREEN CHURCH SUPPORTS HOME MISSIONS



The Revs. Bobby Brown and Taylor Hill

The Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, near Cove City, has adopted the penny plan to raise money for Home Missions and Church Extension. On June 11 the church presented Director Taylor Hill with a check in the amount of $500 as a result of their penny collections. Their pastor, the Rev. Bobby Brown stated that this is just the beginning of greater things to come. Mr. Brown believes that a great deal of good can come from giving. Mr. Hill brought the morning message on fruit bearing.

Coming Events . . .

June 26—Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship at 11 a. m., Three Steers Restaurant, Greenville

June 27—Woman's Conference, 10 a.m., registration 9:30 a.m., (General Conference), Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pikeville

July 11—Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet at 10 a.m., at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina

July 17-20—Ministers' Conference, Cragmont Assembly

June: CRAGMONT MONTH

1978 CAMP SCHEDULE

Cragmont will be opened May 15 through October 31, 1978. The scheduled conferences are as follows:

JUNE 26—JULY 1: CHRISTIAN CADETS CONFERENCE—The Rev. Bobby Taylor, director-registrar, Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, North Carolina 28590; phone: (919) 756-2391.

JULY 3-8: YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (YFA, ages 13 and up)—Mrs. D. W. ''Ma'' Hansley, director-registrar, Route 4, Box 163, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551; (919) 566-3621.

JULY 10-15: YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (AFC, ages 9-12)—Mrs. D.W. ''Ma'' Hansley, director-registrar, Route 4, Box 163, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551; phone (919)566-3621.

JULY 17-20: MINISTERS' CONFERENCE—The Rev. Walter Reynolds, director, P. O. Box 514, Winterville, North Carolina 28590; phone (919) 756-6587.

JULY 30—AUGUST 5: YOUNG PEOPLES BIBLE CONFERENCE—The Rev. J.B. Starnes, director-registrar, Route 3, Box 123, Newport, North Carolina 28570; phone: (919) 223-4750.

AUGUST 7-12: WOMAN'S CONFERENCE—Mrs. Dola Dudley, director; Mrs. Lillie Mae Sasser, registrar, Route 2, Box 497, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

AUGUST 14-18: FAMILY WEEK—The Rev. Douglas Skinner, director-registrar, c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 N. Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711; phone: (704) 669-7677.

The cost for youth encampments at Cragmont this summer will be $50 (unless a change is made later). The registration fee is $7 with the remainder due upon boarding the bus. The Woman's Conference will be $50 per person including the $10 registration fee. Send your name, address, sex, age, and registration fee to the registrar of the conference you desire to attend. There is no preregistration for the Ministers' Conference.

Rates: Motel room rates per night: one person, $4; two persons, $6; three persons, $7.50; four or more persons, $9.

Rooms in other buildings per night: $2.

Meals: adults, breakfast, $1.50; lunch or dinner, $1.75; children (12 and under), breakfast, $1.00; lunch or dinner, $1.25.

NEWS & NOTES

Mt. Zion Church
Bible School in Progress

Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, near Kenly, is having vacation Bible school, June 19 through June 23 from 7 to 9 p. m. All ages through teenagers are invited to attend. Commencement will be Sunday, June 25, at 8 p. m. with refreshments following.

L. B. Manning
Honored by Church



L. B. Manning

The Rev. L. B. Manning, pastor of Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, was honored on his birthday, May 13, with a covered-dish supper by the members. He was presented a birthday cake, made in the shape of the Bible, and an electric shaver. The church is very fortunate to have such a dedicated man as its pastor. Mr. Manning came to supply for the church in July, 1977, and in March of this year, accepted the pastorate for the next year. Peace church is in a building program at the present time. Additional rooms and a fellowship building are being added. Plans include a baptistry in the sanctuary also. God is blessing the church under the leadership of Mr. Manning.

Sound View Church
Has Bible School

Sound View Free Will Baptist Church, 10 miles west on Highway 24 from Morehead City, announces vacation Bible school, June 19 through June 23 from 6:30 until 8:45 p. m. The Rev. Gurney Chase and the church members invite all children to attend the remainder of these services.

Spring Branch Church
Honors Pastor's Wife

On Saturday night, June 10, the fellowship hall of Spring Branch church was the scene of a floating baby shower honoring Mrs. Royce Reynolds, wife of the church's pastor. Guests were greeted by Mrs. Mildred Owens who presented them to Mr. Reynolds and Mrs. Linda Suggs who was assisting in opening gifts. Mrs. Reynolds was presented a corsage made of yellow and white baby socks. Mr. Reynolds was presented a white carnation boutonniere.

Many useful gifts were presented the honoree including many handmade items. Good-byes were said by Mrs. Ann Etheridge who presented each guest with a ''thank-you'' note from Baby Reynolds.

Youth At Work in
First Church, Wilson

The young people at First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, recently held several fund raising campaigns including bake sale, doughnut sale, rummage sale, and a car wash, to buy paint for the Chapel at Cragmont Assembly. The GAs, BAs, Tweens, and YFAs donated over $260 for this project. The young people plan to attend the General Youth Conference week, June 19-24, at Cragmont.

Study Course to be Held
First Church, Smithfield

A study course on the Woman's Auxiliary Manual will be held July 10, at 7:30 p. m. at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield. The course will be taught by Mrs. Dola Dudley and other officers of the Cape Fear District. The auxiliary members of the Smithfield church invite everyone to come and join this study course. The church is located on the corner of Third and Rose Streets in Smithfield.

Mt. Tabor Church
Observes Mother's Day



Oldest Mother, Youngest Mother, and Mother with Most Children

Mother's Day services were observed at Mt. Tabor Free Will Baptist Church near Creswell. A very inspiring sermon was brought by the Rev. Ranson McAbee. A corsage was given to the oldest mother, Mrs. Annie Furlough; the youngest mother, Mrs. Joyce Cornstalk; and the mother with the most children.

Plymouth YFA Has
Rock-a-thon

On Friday night, May 26, the YFA of First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, held a rock-a-thon in the fellowship hall to raise money for ''College Hall'' at Mount Olive College. The rocking chairs were occupied for twelve hours. Both the old and the young enjoyed rocking throughout the night. Food and entertainment was provided by various church members. A check in the amount of $90 has been mailed in for the project. Prizes were given to the boy and girl who rocked the longest. Their leader was Mrs. Floyd Burkey. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Floyd Burkey.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

MOC

OC

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ATTENTION!

The annual Ministers' Institute is scheduled for August 7, 8 at Mount Olive College.

Make plans to attend. Information will be forthcoming.

FREE WILL BAPTIST STUDENTS RECEIVE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Several Free Will Baptist students are receiving Presidential Scholarships to attend Mount Olive College for the 1978-79 academic year.

To receive a Presidential Scholarship, a student must be in the upper 10 percent of the senior graduating class.

The following students will participate in the Academic Honors program:

Donna Lynn Buffkin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Buffkin of Chadbourn and Beaverdam church; Alice Lynn Hines, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin K. Hines of Winterville and Winterville church; and Teresa Dawn Kelly, daughter of Mrs. Carolyn Kelly of Newport and Holly Springs church.

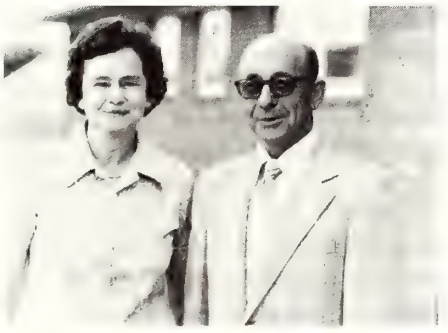
Also, Jeanne Yvette Kittrell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Kittrell Sr. of Morehead City and Crab Point church; Sonya Faye McCoy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Ray McCoy of Hookerton and Hugo church; Wanda Jernell Mills, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Mills of Ayden and Black Jack church.

Debbie Lynn Parrish, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Parrish of Belhaven and Sidney church; Sheri McKay Slaughter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert M. Slaughter of Newport and Holly Springs church; and Anna Christine Stephenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby T. Stephenson of Smithfield and Hopewell church.

Jeanette Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ormand Lee Thomas of New Bern and Bridgeton church; M. Lynette Turner, daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. E. M. Turner of Goldsboro and Spring Hill church; and Candy Elaine Willis, daughter of Mrs. Daphne Willis of Lucama and St. Mary's church.

Children's Home

"GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN"



Rupert and Jo Pittman

"Gone But Not Forgotten" or so they write on our gravestones. However, all too often when friends or church members move away we forget to keep in touch. This has not been the case for two wonderful Christian people we know and the church they loved so dearly.

Rupert and Jo Pittman came to work at the Children's Home in January of this year. Their home church, Daniels Chapel at Wilson, laid their hands upon them in prayer and sent them away as the church at Antioch did for Paul and his companions.

Once they arrived on the campus it was evident that Daniels Chapel had not forgotten.

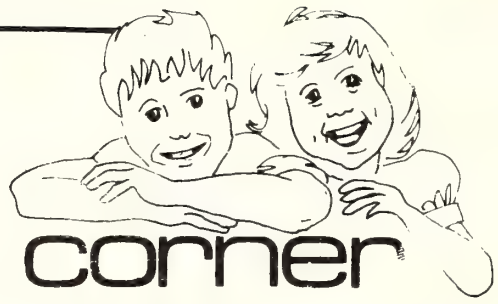
Central cottage needed a new freezer, so Rupert's Men's Fellowship sponsored a special day and raised $360 and bought a food freezer for the cottage. Later on Jo, as well as the rest of us, wanted to do something about the looks of the campus. None of the new cottages had shrubbery. Again, the people of Daniels Chapel came to the rescue. Led by the Men's Fellowship, the church raised $2,000 for shrubbery and the men of the church, guided by nurseryman, Robert Strickland, planted shrubbery around all our buildings.

Rupert and Jo are gone from Daniels Chapel, but they are not forgotten. The people of the church still hold them up to the Lord in their prayers as well as seeking to meet their needs in other ways as well.

The administration of the Children's Home is very well pleased with the fine job the Pittmans are doing in Central cottage. We believe it's because they are, first of all, dedicated to God's work and, secondly, because their church stands behind to support and to encourage them all the way. Remember to pray for the Pittmans and all of us here at the Home.

MEMORIAL CHAPEL NEEDS PAINT

Our maintenance crew at the Children's Home is in the process of painting the outside of the buildings on campus. The campus is beginning to take on a look of brightness. We have one problem that you may be able to help us with. The church is so high off the ground that we feel we need some special help with it. If you are a professional painter or you know who might help us paint the upper part of the church, we would appreciate your calling the executive director at 235-2161 in the daytime, or at night call 235-4638.



story corner

JONATHAN AND DAVID: DEVOTED FRIENDS

LAST week we learned about David and the way he killed the giant. Naturally, King Saul was pleased with David. Here a young boy had done what none of his army would try to do. He himself had been afraid.

King Saul had a son named Jonathan. When Saul took David back home with him, Jonathan and David became great friends. They loved each other as much as if they had been brothers. Perhaps they loved each other more than they could their own brothers. David went back to live in the house of the king, and Jonathan shared his clothes with him, even his sword and bow. Saul sent David on errands when he needed someone brave and faithful. All the people of the kingdom loved David.

Soon the people began to sing about David. They sang: "Saul has slain his thousands but David his ten thousands."

Saul heard this; and because he was sometimes wicked, he began to be jealous of the way people sang of David. He wanted them to think that he was the greatest fighter in the land, but they knew that he had been afraid of the giant but David had not. David was the bravest man in the land.

Saul was in one of his bad moods and called for David to play the harp for him. While David was playing, Saul kept thinking of the songs that were being sung about David, and he decided to try to kill David; then the people would think that he was the bravest and strongest man again.

He had a javelin, a kind of spear, in his hand. When David was playing, he threw it, trying to pin David to the wall and kill him. But the Lord was with David: twice he dodged and escaped. Saul became afraid of David because he knew that the Lord was with David. Saul wanted to get David away from him; so he made David the captain over a thousand of the soldiers. The Lord continued to be with David, and he did well as the captain.

David loved the daughter of the king and wanted to marry her; but Saul wanted David killed. He was afraid to do it because he knew that the Lord was with David; so he decided to use his daughter as a trap for David. He knew that if David could fight the Philistines there would be a chance that he would be killed. He told David that, if he would kill one hundred Philistines alone, he could marry Michal, Saul's daughter.

David not only killed the hundred: he killed two hundred; then he presented himself to the king to marry his daughter. Even after they were married and he was Saul's son-in-law, Saul hated David. He tried to get Jonathan and all of his servants to kill David.

Jonathan loved David and went to him to tell him to hide: "My father is determined that you shall die. Let us find a secret place for you to hide. I will go to my father and see if he is still angry and wants to kill you."

Because of Jonathan, Saul said that he would not kill David; then David returned again to the house of Saul.

Saul again became jealous and wanted to kill David. Michal, David's wife, found out Saul's plans and helped David escape down the side of the wall through a window; then she took blankets and made a dummy to put in his bed so that they might not know he had gone.

Saul was very angry when he found that he had been tricked by his own daughter.

Again Jonathan went to David to help him hide from the king. They arranged a signal that would let David know if it was safe for him to return to his home. Jonathan was to come to the place near David's hiding place and practice shooting arrows. When he got three into the air, he would send his servant to find them. If it were safe for David to come out, he would say to the servant, "The arrows are on this side of thee." But if the king were still of a mind to kill David, Jonathan would say, "Behold, the arrows are beyond thee." David was to go away and try to keep hidden from the king.

When Jonathan went before his father and asked about David, Saul was very angry with him. He knew that Jonathan knew where to find David and he said, "You shall never be king until David is dead. Go and bring him to me." Jonathan refused and Saul was so angry that he threw a javelin at his own son. Jonathan knew that Saul would never change his mind about David now; therefore, he went to the fields near the place they had appointed.

Taking his bow and three arrows, he shot them into the air toward David's hiding place; then he said to his servant, "Go and find the arrows," When he had gone, Jonathan called to him, "Behold, the arrows lie far beyond thee." The servant went to find them, and David knew that it would not be safe for him to return. He came out of his hiding place to say good-by to his dearest friend.

They kissed one another and wept; then Jonathan said, "Go in peace, and may the Lord always be with us."

David left and hid himself in a cave; Jonathan returned to the city.

Later, David gathered together the men of his army and went into the land of Moab. He brought his mother and father. If you remember, Moab was the home of

his great-grandmother Ruth. He left them there and wandered around in several countries.

Saul banded together some men and went out to find David to kill him, but David would not fight him. Twice, David had an opportunity of killing Saul, and twice he refused.

Going into the land of the Philistines, he lived there for a year and four months, until Saul was dead; then he returned to Israel to become the king, as God had anointed him.

Jonathan had been killed in a battle and Saul had killed himself in the same battle. David grieved for them, especially for his beloved friend, Jonathan.

David reigned for many years as king of Israel.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

THAT WOMAN—MORE THAN RUBIES

by Mrs. Albert Proctor

When the great King Solomon—that man famous for his wisdom—wrote a hymn praising the attributes of a virtuous woman, he proceeded to write of mundane characteristics, saying that her "price is above rubies." As in the day of Solomon, so today the value of a woman who has given herself to the Lord is inestimable by those who work with her in the home, community, and church. Her abilities are many, provided she has proper motivation. In most churches, the Woman's Auxiliary tries to see that her talents are used for God's glory. If all the women of the church are to fully enjoy salvation and best serve in God's Kingdom, the enlistment committee of the Auxiliary will be alert to enroll every woman of the church, thus giving each a chance to use her special talents.

Enlistment Chairman, who is the woman in the next pew? Perhaps she is a person who has just been born again at the age of sixty. She realizes that she may only have a few years left to be busy for her Saviour, but she scarcely knows where to begin. What work is there for a new inexperienced Christian? Maybe she is lonely and too timid to make overtures. Make her your friend. Invite her to go with you to Auxiliary meeting. Help her to understand the work, and how she may become a vital part of it.

How about the young woman scarcely out of her teens who was saved during the last revival? She too wants a place to serve. Let her know that the Woman's Auxiliary wants her. At her age she abounds with energy that can help her fill a place that some of the older members no longer are adequate to fill.

Then there is the woman who has just moved into the area. Last week, with the other members of her family, she sought membership in your church. Next Sunday morning tell her you are glad to have her family in your church; and that you look forward to having her in your neighborhood and in your Auxiliary. Perhaps she is lonely. Visit her. Pique her interest by telling her about some of the activities going on in the Auxiliary. Let her know that your group of women not only enjoy working for the Lord, but also enjoy the friendship that exists among you. Make her feel that this fellowship can be hers. Discuss the positive things about your church. Suggest that she go with you to the next Auxiliary meeting.

Look at the woman on the back pew. She, too, is new in your community. Finding no church in your town of her denomination, for the first time she has joined a Free Will Baptist Church —yours. It is all so new to her. She loves the Lord, and wants to serve. Enroll her. Teach her. Listen when she tells how things were done in her former church. You may learn a better way than yours. Seek to discover what she especially likes to do, and soon there will come a time when her special gift is needed. Who knows what a blessing she may be to your work?

The Bible tells of many kinds of service done by women. Some was done for Jesus. Some was done for others. There was Dorcas using her needle, Mary who anointed Jesus' feet, Lydia who shared her home, and the widow who fed the prophet. Remember Jesus said, "Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these, my brethren, ye did it unto me." Enlistment Chairman, look upon the fields. Do not be afraid to use all the tools at your disposal to "bring them in."

Yes, in God's Kingdom the elderly woman in the next pew, the newly converted energetic young woman, the newcomer in the community, and the lady in the back pew who belonged to a different denomination are all God's children with varying abilities. Enlist them. Use them. All can be assets to your Auxiliary, and can edify your Christ and Lord. "Her price is above rubies." What blessings these new members can be when all work together "in His Name."

IN MEMORIAM

Today I walked into my home,
As I had so oft before
But oh, there's such a difference,
My loved one is here no more.
He's gone that last long mile,
That all of us must tread.
The void that he has left
Would be filled with fear and dread,
If it wasn't for my Saviour,
Whose death upon the Cross,
Has paved the road to Heaven,
And shares with us our loss.
I believe there'll come a day,
When once again we'll see,
Our loved one face to face
And with our Saviour be,
To live in mansions He's prepared,
Not just for us, you see
But for every human soul
Who accepts the Gospel's plea.

—Ruth Lancaster Warrick

We would like to express our deep gratitude for the many flowers, cards, letters and memorials to our beloved husband and father who departed this life May 8, 1978.

Mrs. Almond (Ruth) Warrick
Mrs. Jean Warrick Tripp
Almond R. Warrick Jr.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For July 2

PAUL MINISTERS THROUGH LETTERS

Lesson Text: Acts 18:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 2:1, 2, 13-20
Memory Verse: Psalm 119:34

I. INTRODUCTION

Paul established churches as he preached and worked throughout the eastern fringes of Europe. But after people were converted and gathered into communities of faith, his interest in them did not wane. Sometimes he was forced to leave a city much sooner than he wished. This was due to persecution and opposition. But he often sent his helpers to the churches to encourage them in Christ. He wrote letters to them to express his continued love and concern. He sought, also, to remind them of truths he had taught and to give them further direction in the Christian way. Such were the two letters sent to Thessalonica, which will absorb our attention for several weeks.

It is apparent that beautiful memories and joyful reminiscences of devotion to God were shared by Paul and his fellow Christians in Thessalonica. The sharing of faith, dedication, and service knit their lives together. Many evidences of this remain in these letters.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In our study of the Apostle Paul, we see that he also preached through the written word. Once a message is spoken, it is gone and cannot be recalled (unless there is a recording made of it); but the written Word can go on for years, blessing the lives of those who read.

B. Paul met with great opposition at Corinth, but he also had great success there. Why do so many of us insist upon measuring a minister's success by his popularity? Often the very places where a minister meets with the greatest opposition are also the places where he has the greatest success.

C. The pastor is the only man whose success with his people is dependent upon his love for them. A doctor's medicine will have the same effect whether he loves the patient or not. But this is not true of the pastor. The relationship that exists between a preacher and the people decides how the message will be received. Usually, if the people do not care for the man, they will not accept his message.

D. Paul expresses his attitude toward the Thessalonians in Chapter 2 of 1 Thessalonians. He says that he cherished them as a nurse or mother would cherish her children. Then he says that he charged them as a father would his children. Finally, he speaks of them as his brethren. What a relationship!

E. After Paul left the Thessalonians, some of them died. The others began to wonder just how they would fit into what Paul had taught them about Christ coming for His church (the Rapture). Paul wrote this letter to explain this. The Book of 1 Thessalonians thus gives the best description of the Rapture in all the Bible. Paul tells the people that they can use **these words** to comfort one another.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. At the close of last Sunday's lesson we saw how the Jews from Thessalonica had come to Berea and stirred up the people against Paul and Silas. "And then immediately the brethren sent away Paul to go as it were to the sea: but Silas and Timotheus abode there still" (Acts 17:14). Silas remained in Berea and Timothy (who had recently joined them), and Paul sailed to Athens, in Greece.

B. While in Athens, Paul reasoned with the Greeks on the famous Mars' Hill, pointing out that the true God was Jehovah (17:22-34), and that God no longer would overlook their "ignorance" of Him (v. 30). Some of his hearers "mocked" him when he spoke of the Resurrection (v. 32), but others believed what he was saying (v. 34). Paul then left Athens and went west, to Corinth.

Paul made his living as a tentmaker, so his travels were limited. Because of this, he spent much time in writing to the churches he had started. His letters are in the New Testament.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

As a candle gives light by consuming itself, so we can see the benefits of our ministry for Christ as we are being spent for His glory. "Each Christian should see himself as an instrument in the hands of Christ, a tool, not to be polished and laid on a shelf, but to be tempered, sharpened, and used—used up if necessary—in the service of Christ."—**Standard Lesson Commentary**. As we look at the quality of our service, do we find that we have been used effectively for His glory, or are there areas of our lives reserved to ourselves for selfish reasons? What scars do we bear for the glory of the witness of His Word?—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Harry A. Jones announces that he will be available for pastoral work at the end of June. His present address is Rev. Harry A. Jones, Route 1, Box 430, Dover, North Carolina 28526. He may be contacted by phoning 527-3262 or 527-8459.

The Rev. Roger Hartsell announces that he is available for full-time or part-time pastoral services. He is a licensed Free Will Baptist minister in the Piedmont Conference. He may be contacted by writing: Roger Hartsell, Route 6, Box 39, Albemarle, North Carolina 28001, or by phoning (704) 982-9068.



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THE REJECTED KING

by the Rev. Graham Faucette
Kenly, N.C. 27542

Judas discovered that no one rejects Christ without first selling himself short. Evil is always in the heart before it is in the hand. And because of their own faults and weaknesses, the priestly rulers of the Jews, the organizers of the accusing mob, quivering Pilate, and Judas could not live comfortably on the same earth with Jesus. So on that turbulent Friday they conspired to send Him to the Cross. Long preparation had gone into bringing the seed of woman (Genesis 3:15) to this point in history. Jesus had come in an earthly sense of the seed of Abraham and Isaac, and of the tribe of Judah, and of the family of David. He was the virgin-born Son of God. He had been anointed by the Holy Spirit, introduced by a divinely selected man by the name of John. He was hated without cause (Psalm 35:19, 69:4; John 15:24, 25). He was rejected by the rulers, even as the prophets of old had foretold (Psalm 118:22; Matthew 21:42; John 7:48). In a harsh and foolhardly move, Judas had come to the aid of the priests and the scribes who wanted to destroy Jesus, but feared the people. Judas offered to betray Jesus with a kiss. The price of a slave was paid to seal the agreement. The betrayal took place in the Garden of Gethsemane, after Jesus had spent some of the night hours in prayer. Quickly Jesus was brought to trial before the Jews and before Rome. The first trial was before Annas (John 18:13). Then our Lord was taken before Caiaphas (Matthew 26:57). Next Jesus was taken before the Sanhedrin (Luke 22:66-71). The first hearing before Pilate then took place (Matthew 27:2). Herod Antipas heard the case briefly (Luke 23:7). Finally, Pilate passed the sentence of death (Luke 23:24). Such was the machinery of the earthly rejection of the heavenly King.

A Question of Identity . . . "Art Thou the King of the Jews"

"And Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him; saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And Jesus said unto him, Thou sayest" (Matthew 27:11). The accusers said Jesus made Himself a King in rebellion against Caesar (Luke 23:2). If Jesus would admit that He was a rival of Caesar, Pilate would have an excuse to put Him to death. Pilate was always very careful not to offend Caesar. He had already generated trouble for himself with his own decisions. He would handle this one carefully. Upon interrogation, Jesus quickly admitted that He was a King, but not a King who would pose a political threat to the emperor (John 18:36, 37). Pilate was aware of this, and he later said that he found no fault in Him (Luke 23:4). He knew that it was for envy Jesus had been delivered to him (Matthew 27:18).

A Choice Offered. . . "Barabbas or Jesus"

"Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you, Barabbas or Jesus which is called Christ?" (Matthew 27:17). Both the Greeks and the Romans celebrated special occasions by releasing certain prisoners. The multitude in Jerusalem had asked Pilate to make to them his annual gift of a prisoner (Mark 15:6-8). But when Pilate asked, "Will ye that I release unto you the King of the Jews" (Mark 15:9)? The chief priests got busy and stirred the people to demand that Pilate release Barabbas which Pilate did. He also "delivered Jesus, when he had scourged Him, to be crucified" (Mark 15:11-15).

Ridicule and Mockery . . . "And They Spit Upon Him"

"And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head, and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon Him, and took the reed, and smote Him on the head" (Matthew 27: 29, 30). Cruel hands were laid upon the Christ who could have called down legions of angels, had He so chosen. Hell let loose in human hearts, has no respect for deity and delights in scorning and humiliating the Son of God. He who declared that His kingdom was not of this world was forcibly assaulted with a crown of thorns. He who had never harmed a human soul was led away to be crucified. What judgments of wrath must await those who so treated our Lord in that day. But what about people today who speak evil of the church that Jesus built; or seek to change the ordinances of His Kingdom, or divide the body of Christ? It is entirely possible to live a life of such mockery toward Christ that the guilt of the ancient crucifiers takes second place to that of modern evildoers who simply crowd Jesus out of their lives and go their own unholy ways.

The Eternal Question. . . "What Shall I Do Then With Jesus?"

"Pilate said unto them, what shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified" (Matthew 27:22). When Pilate brought Jesus out before the mob, he said, "Behold the man" (John 19:5). But God at the same time was saying something far more significant: "Behold My Son." Behold, the co-creator of the universe. Behold, the sin remover. Hell did not win a victory that day, but Heaven did. The eternal consequences of choosing Christ and standing with Him began to be spelled out in that hour. The man who betrayed Him into the hands of His enemies declared Him innocent, and the judge who pronounced the sentence of death declared Him, in the same breath, a just person. Never did such circumstances attend the death of any other man.

The End of the Beginning . . . "They Led Him Away to Crucify Him"

"And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him, and led him away to crucify him" (Matthew 27:31). The enemies of Jesus thought that was the final chapter of His record. But Heaven had other plans. Christ went down to death and the grave in order that He might come again with greater power. Another chapter was ready to unfold. The next chapter concerning Him who came to destroy sin in human flesh, to reconcile man to God, to be our example, and to destroy death was the chapter

that issued in Christ's honor and glory. "But we see Jesus. . . crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man" (Hebrews 2:9). Everywhere I go I hear that it was the Jews that killed Jesus, but it was your sins and my sins that nailed Jesus to that Cross. The Bible declares that He lay down His own life, that no one took it from Him (John 10:18). We are all saved by the same Lord, delivered by the same blood. The Bible declares in Ephesians 2:8, 9, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, not of works lest any man should boast." That eliminates all that some people have ever depended on to save them. If your hope is not in the Christ that was crucified, then all of your hope is in vain.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

On May 24, God in His infinite wisdom saw fit to call to his reward our brother in Christ, the Rev. Marshall Joyner, age 94. He was the oldest member of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Pitt County. He had served as a minister for many years until his health failed. His funeral was held at Wilkerson's Funeral Chapel, by his pastor, the Rev. Tommy Evans; burial was in the Nobles Cemetery.

He leaves to mourn, four sons, two daughters, nine grandchildren, and fifteen great-grandchildren.

Therefore, be it resolved:

First, that we extend to the bereaved family our deepest sympathy.

Second, that we express our deepest appreciation for his devotion and the many ways he showed his love to the congregation.

Third, a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, a copy to the Free Will Baptist Press for publication, and a copy be retained for the minutes of the church.

Submitted by the
Bereavement Committee,
Velma Harris
Myrtle Ruth Tyson

Coming Events . . .

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 4—Independence Day

July 4—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, and Wilson

July 9—Homecoming and Annual Alumni Meeting, Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

July 14, 15—Summer Orientation I, Mount Olive College

July 30—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention

July 30—Central Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

July 30—Mount Olive Sunday in Local Churches

ATTENTION!

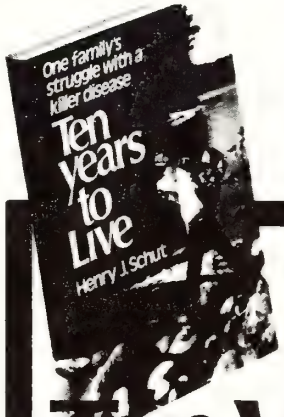
The Free Will Baptist Press and the Branch Bookstores will be closed June 30 for inventory.

If Christ is the way,

why waste time

traveling some other

way?



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NORTH CAROLINA MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Gary M. Bailey
Route 3, Box 294
Ayden, North Carolina 28513

June 8, 1978

To: Clerks of Original Free Will Baptist Churches of North Carolina

Dear Sirs:

I would like to call to your attention the Annual Ministers' Conference to be held at Cragmont on July 17-20. This is a time many ministers take for spiritual rest and refreshment.

The Executive Committee of the Association would like to ask your church to consider helping your pastor with his expenses toward this conference. Some ministers may not be able to attend unless their church helps them with the expenses. Others will attend even if it means a personal sacrifice. We think all ministers in our ranks could benefit from this conference and would like for all to attend.

There are few occasions that your pastor can spend time with fellow ministers. Much of his time is used in the service of your church. The Annual Ministers' Conference provides a great time of fellowship, rest, and personal enrichment.

The cost for each minister will vary according to location. We suggest that you consider a gift of $75 to $100. Please bring this item to the attention of your church.

I personally thank you for the support you are giving your pastor and hope that you will encourage him to attend our conference this year.

Sincerely,
Gary M. Bailey, Secretary


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PINE LEVEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Pine Level, North Carolina
F. B. Cherry, Pastor

CHURCH OF THE MONTH

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

JUNE 28, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial . . .

LIQUOR-BY-THE-DRINK—And Sink!

A twist of lemon, a cherry or an olive, a colorful stirring straw, five or six mini-blocks of ice (round or square), a little bit of this and that with a shot or two of alcohol. Presto! Your favorite cocktail! You're in class—or so suggest the liquor-by-the-drink advocates who recently won the fight to make North Carolina a wet state.

For years the battle had raged; for years the pro-liquor forces had sought to make North Carolina like so many other states which sell mixed drinks. North Carolina had been one of the last states in the Bible belt to submit to the brewing threat, but on June 14, the 70-year prohibition on the sale of such drinks ended with final legislative approval.

It is probable that it will be five months or more before mixed drinks as such are served in North Carolina restaurants and / or clubs, for the passed bill hangs over local option; subsequently, local referendums must be held and state regulations developed before the drinks can be sold. Our guess is that by Christmas every county will be replete with concoctions bearing all kinds of fancy names.

But liquor-by-the-drink is not the *real concern*; nor is it the *danger*. The concern and danger lie in *liquor per se—beverage alcohol in any quantity—mixed or straight.* And while the passage of the bill will make the beverage more accessible (when and where the notion strikes), *the real issue so far as Christians are concerned is not the quantity so much as the product.*

Alcohol in any form or amount is dangerous. It is a sure fact that a person who never takes the first drink cannot become an alcoholic. A person who takes a drink will not *necessarily* become an alcoholic, either; but when something is at your fingertips, as it were, so easy to come by, the temptation is greater.

While it may appear that we are grasping for straws, it is not inconceivable that *more* people will indulge if the brew is "let loose" by the drink than if it were held by its former reins. In social circles, it's considered the thing to do—have a drink before, during, and after meals; between meals, at break time, at bedtime, during the night when you can't sleep, and whenever. It's considered a cure-all, a steadier of the nerves. The old adage, "One drink leads to another, and another, and another" could be no more applicable than here.

Reputed to be the most abused drug in America, alcohol, more than any other product on the market, is the personification of Satan. People who disdain to smoke pot, or partake of speed or any of the harder drugs, seldom see any stigma attached to or recognize any danger in "taking a drink"—"*just to be sociable.*" Admittedly, it may take a real man to take *one drink* and stop there; it takes a *bigger man to refuse even one drink*, under the pressure of his peers.

"Cocktails, highballs, daiquiris." However you wish to dress it up, alcohol is alcohol. For medicinal purposes, it is fine—unless, of course, we produce a society of self-appointed physicians who write personal prescriptions and use them indiscriminately. "Four times a day" becomes "Any time you want it—day or night." That, we cannot accept!

By the gallon, by the pint, or by the drink, liquor is depressing—and, to the Christian, *sinful!* Free Will Baptists maintain their dry stand, and offer no apologies.



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JUNE 28, 1978

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HISTORY OF THE PINE LEVEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Pine Level, North Carolina
The Rev. F. B. Cherry, Pastor

THE earliest known Free Will Baptist church services at Pine Level were held in an old building beside the railroad tracks around 1870. Later some land was given by a Mr. Berry and Tom Oliver and the first church was built upon this site. Elder Ray Phillips and Elder Daniel Davis helped organize the early Free Will Baptist church. Elder Davis served as pastor for many years and is believed to have been the pastor when the first church was built. Later the Rev. Jim Worley was pastor until 1910 when there was a division within the church. Around 1913 the membership had increased to the extent that a larger church was needed. While the Rev. Will Howell was pastor, the first church was sold and removed from the site. A larger church was built at the same location.

The Rev. S. H. Styron was called as pastor in 1914 and helped build the present church. He remained pastor for 25 years until his death in 1939, with the exception of two years that he served another church. The Rev. Billy Ferrell was pastor during those two years.

In 1926 or 1927 a revival was held by the Rev. L. R. Ennis of Goldsboro during which 97 people accepted Christ and joined the church. Some of these members are still active in the church.

The following ministers succeeded Mr. Styron: the Revs. L. H. Worthington, J.A. Evans, M. L. Tyson, M. L. Johnson, Albert Harris, M. L. Johnson (a second term), David Hansley, Herbert Waid, R. H. Jackson, Clyde Cox, Robert Rollins, Robert Langley and Floyd Cherry. Mr. Cherry has served for the past two years.

A parsonage was built in 1950 and was first occupied by Mr. Harris and his family.

Throughout the years the church building has undergone various stages of remodeling, both inside and outside. In 1954 (while Mr. Hansley was pastor), an educational building was added to the church. Also the exterior of the church was refinished with permastone. Major renovation of the church interior was made while Mr. Cox was pastor.

Church services were held on the second Saturday and Sunday until 1954. During Mr. Hansley's pastorate fourth Sunday services were added and second Saturday services were discontinued. The first full-time pastor was Mr. Jackson.

Communion services are held the second Sunday night in each quarter (February, May, August, and November). Quarterly business conferences are also held in the same months.

The membership of the church is 295.

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FEATURE

MY CALL TO WITNESS

By: Helen Griffin, age 16
First Free Will Baptist Church
Durham, North Carolina
1978 Essay
Western District and State Winner

SOMEWHERE in New York City's skid row is a man in need of a miracle. He is trapped by the despair of alcoholism, has no home, no friends, and no purpose in his life. But there is hope for this man and thousands just like him.

We, as God's children, should spread His good news to the men in the streets, our fallen brothers. Christians touch the lives of men every day. Witnessing to others gives sinners a chance to begin anew and start the miracle of spiritual healing in their lives.

In Matthew 28:19, God tells us, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." This means that we, as Christians, should go around the world and witness for Him. You could preach a sermon, sing a song, play an instrument, or use any talent God has given you to serve Him.

Serving God is a challenge within itself. Although there are many Christians in today's society, there are more sinners. This alone should serve a purpose for Christians to get out and witness and not be ashamed to proclaim His name. In Mark 8:38, Jesus says, "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

God calls different people to serve in different jobs. He called Abraham to leave his home, his place, his country, and his family to go into another country which he should afterward receive for an inheritance. In obedience, Abraham left and went, as a sojourner, into the Promised Land of Canaan.

God not only called Abraham, but called many other prophets to do His work. He may have even called you. It is imperative that we do His work. If He calls, we should answer and obey, as did Abraham. So many people do not realize that if God did not want us to do His work, He would not have called. We should never deny God, for He is our Creator and has the right to do what He wants for our lives.

In Proverbs 14:5, the Bible says, "A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies." When we are called to do God's work, we should not lie. This is what God's call is all about. In this verse, it says that anyone who is truly faithful to God, will not lie, but will tell the truth about Him and His Son, Jesus, to everyone.

The day that the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart and I was saved was the day when my call to witness began. The way that I witness is through singing with my family and the choir of my church and by spreading God's Word through conversation with others. I feel that it is vitally important that young people, more than anyone, should be saved. The youth of today are tomorrow's leaders. If all the young people knew Christ, then they would be assured that our tomorrow would be one that would be filled with excitement about Jesus and His works.

I find as I go to school and take part in activities that it is especially difficult for a young person to be a Christian. We are tempted in so many ways. There are many things going on today that no one even would have thought could happen ten years ago. The most tempting thing in schools today is dope. Many young people think that they can find an answer to their problems and lives by taking it. This is where a Christian can help. Witnessing to someone in such circumstances could lead to that person's being saved, as well as others who are involved.

Witnessing can be dangerous. A Christian always stands a chance of running into those who want to act as though they know everything. These people criticize you and the Word of God. Most of them do not seem to be able to find peace in their hearts and lives. They usually have problems that easily could be solved, if they only knew Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

These are the people who need to be witnessed to the most, if only someone would take the time to do so. These people think that if they become Christians, that there will be no more excitement and fun in their lives. They are afraid of what their best friends will say or what the boys at the office will do if they found out. True Christians will not let this bother them. They will continue on with their daily activities, and will witness to those people who criticize.

During the time of the Early Church, Stephen was a great witness for God. It didn't matter what people said or thought of him. He was determined to do the work of the Lord, no matter what the cost. For this, Stephen was stoned. He was persecuted for preaching and for the salvation of people under his ministry. Stephen loved and respected God so much that He gave his life for God's work, as did Jesus when He died for our sins.

Last January, my grandfather had a serious heart attack. The doctors told us that they did not see how he had lived to reach the hospital. He had to undergo surgery several times before his problem was corrected.

This was my chance, as well as that of my family, to witness to the unsaved. While in the Intensive Care waiting

(Continued on Page 16)

June: CRAGMONT MONTH

1978 CAMP SCHEDULE

Cragmont will be opened May 15 through October 31, 1978. The scheduled conferences are as follows:

JUNE 26—JULY 1: CHRISTIAN CADETS CONFERENCE—The Rev. Bobby Taylor, director-registrar, Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, North Carolina 28590; phone: (919) 756-2391.

JULY 3-8: YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (YFA, ages 13 and up)—Mrs. D. W. "Ma" Hansley, director-registrar, Route 4, Box 163, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551; (919) 566-3621.

JULY 10-15: YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE (AFC, ages 9-12)—Mrs. D.W. "Ma" Hansley, director-registrar, Route 4, Box 163, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551; phone (919)566-3621.

JULY 17-20: MINISTERS' CONFERENCE—The Rev. Walter Reynolds, director, P. O. Box 514, Winterville, North Carolina 28590; phone (919) 756-6587.

JULY 30—AUGUST 5: YOUNG PEOPLES BIBLE CONFERENCE—The Rev. J.B. Starnes, director-registrar, Route 3, Box 123, Newport, North Carolina 28570; phone: (919) 223-4750.

AUGUST 7-12: WOMAN'S CONFERENCE—Mrs. Dola Dudley, director; Mrs. Lillie Mae Sasser, registrar, Route 2, Box 497, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

AUGUST 14-18: FAMILY WEEK—The Rev. Douglas Skinner, director-registrar, c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 N. Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711; phone: (704) 669-7677.

The cost for youth encampments at Cragmont this summer will be $50 (unless a change is made later). The registration fee is $7 with the remainder due upon boarding the bus. The Woman's Conference will be $50 per person including the $10 registration fee. Send your name, address, sex, age, and registration fee to the registrar of the conference you desire to attend. There is no preregistration for the Ministers' Conference.

Rates: Motel room rates per night: one person, $4; two persons, $6; three persons, $7.50; four or more persons, $9.

Rooms in other buildings per night: $2.

Meals: adults, breakfast, $1.50; lunch or dinner, $1.75; children (12 and under), breakfast, $1.00; lunch or dinner, $1.25.



SUNDAY, JULY 2

Scripture Reading—2 Peter 2:9

OVER THE FALLS!

Stewart Anderson, in preaching on temptation, reminds us that Bobby Leach, an Englishman, startled the world by going over Niagara Falls in a barrel without suffering serious harm. Some years later he was walking down the street, slipped on an orange peeling, and was taken to the hospital with a badly fractured leg. Dr. Anderson adds: "Some great temptations, which roar around us like Niagara, may leave us unharmed. But a little, insignificant incident may cause our downfall simply because we are not looking for it."

PRAYER THOUGHT

One unguarded moment in a Christian's life might cause him to live the remainder of his life in sin and degradation.

MONDAY, JULY 3

Scripture Reading—Psalm 50:23

WITH US!

In the silence of my chamber
I may with my Saviour share
All my worries and my troubles,
As I talk with Him in prayer.
When I kneel before my Master,
I can feel His presence there,
And the load of care and sorrow
Seems much easier to bear.
In the silence of my chamber
I find peace, and lose despair,
For the glory of the Saviour
Come to me by way of prayer:
I can feel sweet peace descending
Like a shower from above,
And my heart grows calm and tender
In the blessing of His love.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are quick to go to our Lord in prayer when we are in need. Let us think as much of Him daily.

TUESDAY, JULY 4

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 55:6

TRAV'LING TOWARD THE SUNSET!

I am trav'ling toward the sunset,
All is calm and all is well;
And the golden tints tow'ring heav'nward,
Are but Nature's crowning spell.
There is quiet midst the shadows.
For the day's turmoil is spent.
Past the noon with all its travail!
Past the hours of stress and strife!
Fleeting ecstacy and triumph,
Mingled in a plodding life.
There is rapture in the sunset
And the pathway, smooth and straight;
I am longing for the sunrise,
Of that glad resplendent day,
Then the climax and the glory
With the earthlife far away.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God will make our journeys enjoyable and smoother if we will but let Him accompany us.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

Scripture Reading—2 Samuel 22:4

IN GOD'S PRESENCE

An old minister of a small church in a country town had one day in his audience a very distinguished statesman. The service went on about as usual, and the old minister preached with his accustomed earnestness and plainness of speech.

At the close of the service, several members of the congregation gathered about him and said: "Brother, we had a distinguished visitor today, but you did not seem at all embarrassed." Whereupon the old man replied, "I have been preaching in the presence of the Almighty God for forty years, and do you think with Him as one of my constant hearers, any man can embarrass me by his presence?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we admire and acclaim a dignitary, do we ever wonder why we do not afford our Lord as much attention?

THURSDAY, JULY 6

Scripture Reading—John 7:38

UNTIL I LEARNED TO TRUST

Until I learned to trust,
I never learned to pray;
And I did not fully learn to trust,
Till sorrow came my way.

Who deepest drinks of sorrow,
Drinks deepest, too, of grace;
He sent the storm so He, himself,
Can be our hiding place!

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we put our trust in God the trials of this cruel world become easier to overcome. In Him we have a hiding place.

FRIDAY, JULY 7

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 2:2

ASTRONOMICAL!

If the cost of World War II could be prorated among two billion people of the world, the amount for each man, woman, boy, and girl would be $1,708. This amount is exclusive of loss of lives and property.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How foolish and useless to spend so much in wars when Christ paid all our debts with His blood upon the Cross!

SATURDAY, JULY 8

Scripture Reading—Exodus 15:2

THE SONG THAT CHEERS

Haydn, the great musician, was once asked why his church music was so cheerful, and he replied: "When I think upon God, my heart is so full of joy that the notes dance and leap, as it were, from my pen, and, since God

(Continued on Page 15)



It is almost time for the 1978 . . .

YOUTH FRONTIER CONFERENCE

And, we are looking forward to sharing sleepless nights, shaving creme, and surprises with you. Moreover we **know** that God has a blessing in store for us all during YFA (July 3-8) and AFC (July 10-15) weeks. To be with us, you need to send your $10 registration fee to "Ma" today!

Mrs. D. W. Hansley
Route 4, Box 163
LaGrange, N.C. 28551

RESIDENT ASSISTANTS INITIATED AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



Students chosen to initiate the Resident Assistant Program at Mount Olive College are from left, Al Lamm, Pam Johnson, David Hines, and Vivian Hinton, with Dr. Evelyn Mayer, Dean of Students.

by Bev Herring

The Dean of Students' office at Mount Olive College is initiating a new program of Resident Assistants on the Mount Olive College campus to begin in the fall semester.

The RA program will be a part of the student services staff responsible for attending to the total well-rounded experiences of students on campus.

Four students have been selected to initiate the Resident Assistant role. They are Al Lamm from Lucama and Little Rock church; Pam Johnson from Elm City and Calvary church in Wilson; David Hines from Winterville and Winterville Free Will Baptist Church; and Vivian Hinton frtom Princeton and granddaughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Leonard B. Woodall of Smithfield.

Dr. Evelyn Mayer, Dean of Students, commented "We would not have attempted to begin this program on the Mount Olive College campus had it not been that we have students of the caliber to benefit and be beneficial to the program's purposes."

The Resident Assistant will be a member of the Student Services Staff with the basic function of serving as a liason between College personnel and students in matters of mutual concern.

They will act as programmers and organizers for student activities on campus and also be open for any discussions to student needs.

They will determine student interest, and aid in promoting educational programs that compliment the total campus life program.

In describing the new responsibility, David Hines commented, "I see my new position as one of being around for others to talk to. I feel I will gain as much from this experience as anything I am able to give."

Six-foot Al Lamm said, "I feel I can be like a big brother to the freshmen because sometimes they feel uncertain about campus life."

Vivian Hinton added, "I want to be myself, even though I have this new responsibility. I want to be a student's friend because I am a student too."

Pam Johnson also described her new role as friend, "I want to be a true friend to listen and help if I'm able and at least be there if I'm needed."

The RA position will include training for the responsibilities and the addition to the student workload.

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Bernice Kay Barbour, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mellie Gene Barbour, is the recipient of a Presidential Scholarship for the 1978-79 academic year at Mount Olive College.

Her name was inadvertently missed last week in the listing of Presidential Scholarship recipients.

Bernice is from Smithfield and Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church.

FREE WILL BAPTIST STUDENTS RECEIVE FACULTY SCHOLARSHIPS

Several Free Will Baptist students are receiving Faculty Scholarships to attend Mount Olive College for the 1978-79 academic year.

To receive a Faculty Scholarship, a student must be in the upper 20 percent of the graduating class.

The following students will participate in the Academic Honors program:

Randy Neal Caroon, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Caroon of Lowland and Mount Zion church in Vandemere; Judy Elaine Cartret, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frazier Cartret of Whiteville and Beaverdam church; and Marilyn Ann Dail, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Dail of Snow Hill and Grimsley church.

Also, Kim J. Edwards, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Edwards of Smithfield and Hopewell church; Ricky D. Edwards, son of Mr. Jiles Preston Edwards of Tabor

City and Beaverdam church; and Karen Ann Flowers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles N. Flowers of LaGrange and First Free Will Baptist Church of LaGrange.

Andrea Eve Futrell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Futrell of Goldsboro and Stoney Creek church; Jacqueline Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt E. Jones of Mount Olive and Northeast church; and Debra Jeanette Jordan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Jordan of Colquitt, Georgia and Colquitt church.

Also, Kathryn Jo Shackelford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Shackelford of Walstonburg and Free Union church; Danny Dean Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas O. Smith of LaGrange and Woods Grove church; Elizabeth Lynn Tedder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Tedder of Lucama and Piney Grove church; and Candace Joy Wilson, daughter of Mrs. Agnes F. Wilson of Lucama and St. Mary's church.

MISSIONS

HOME MISSIONS BANQUET



The Banquet Scene

The annual Home Missions and Church Extension Banquet was held in Fayetteville on June 10. The program and fellowship were enjoyed by all. The mission pastors and members look forward to this annual event when they can meet the newcomers and share their experiences.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

MY PERSONAL BLESSINGS

by Nancy Matthews

B	A	L	A	N	C	E	O	Y	T	I	V	A	R	G
R	O	Y	A	I	M	A	G	I	N	A	T	I	O	N
E	W	D	L	E	T	S	A	T	S	M	I	L	E	O
A	A	Y	Y	I	S	R	E	G	N	I	F	L	B	I
T	T	C	T	S	M	R	A	I	N	H	T	E	E	T
H	E	N	O	I	T	A	C	I	N	U	M	M	O	C
D	R	D	P	E	L	I	F	E	S	E	E	S	X	U
O	N	O	I	T	C	A	R	M	S	F	G	S	Y	D
O	S	D	N	A	H	H	U	L	E	E	F	E	G	O
F	G	I	I	F	E	E	T	D	N	N	D	N	E	R
M	E	M	O	R	Y	T	H	G	I	L	N	K	N	P
E	L	E	N	E	R	G	Y	Y	P	V	E	R	R	E
R	N	O	S	A	E	R	R	R	P	T	I	A	A	R
C	K	N	O	W	L	E	G	E	A	O	R	D	D	R
Y	K	N	O	H	L	T	A	E	H	E	F	F	N	N
C	R	E	A	T	I	V	I	T	Y	R	A	E	H	I

Sometimes our blessings come hidden behind shadows; many times they are with us, but we are unaware. Find the blessings listed below in the puzzle. They will be found horizontally, perpendicularly, diagonally, and even spelled backwards. Then make your own personal list.

action
arms
balance
body
breath
communication
creativity
darkness
energy
family
feel
feet
fingers
food
friend
gravity
hands
happiness
health
hear
imagination
individuality
know
legs
life
light
memory
mercy
opinion
oxygen
rain
reason
reproduction
see
smell
smile
taste
teeth
toe
water

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Does the Old Testament relate only to the Jews? That's what one speaker on the radio said.

Answer: No! Such a statement lacks biblical support. The apostle writes: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16, 17). Paul, before his conversion to Christ, was a zealously devout Jewish scholar and Old Testament teacher. Thus it took miraculous intervention by Christ to change him, but after conversion he spent the remainder of his life defending the gospel of Christ and rightly interpreting the Old Testament. His teachings under the guidance of the Holy Spirit declare that the revelation of God in both the Old Testament and the NewTestament instructs Jew and Gentile alike how to come back to God through the offering of Christ on the Cross.

Here is what one of the outstanding scholars of our day on Jewish and Gentile relations, Dr. Henry Heydt, says on the subject in the May, 1962 issue of **Christian Victory Magazine**:

"Your question is answered in 2 Timothy 3:16. Some biblical teachers (?) would rob us of everything except a few of Paul's epistles. Paul's own use of the Old Testament should keep any thinking person in the proper balance. See especially Romans 15:8-21. This does not put the Christian under the law, but it makes available for his use the entire Word of God and enables him to see everything in its proper perspective. He lays hold on the blessing of Psalm 2:1 just as Paul did in Romans 4:4-8 and joyfully takes his place in the Abrahamic covenant just as Paul told the Gentiles at Rome to do in the same chapter. The believer's heritage in the Old Testament promises is one of the thrilling teachings of this Jewish apostle to the Gentiles, but he is also careful to show the place and purpose of the law so that there is no need for confusion if we compare Scripture with Scripture."

Question: Is it true, as I have heard, that God will cause each person to suffer in the same way in which he has caused others to suffer?

Answer: If this is correct I do not know it, although we may find a few Scriptural passages that seem to support such retribution. For example, "And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal" (1 Samuel 15:33).

And in the New Testament: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap, For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:7-9).

George H. Sandison gives the following answer to a similar question in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered**:

"There are those who hold with Adoni-bezek (Judges 1:6) that "as I have done so God hath requited me," and there are undoubtedly retributive providences, but such cases are so rare as to be negligible. When such cases occur men's love of the sensational leads them to take note thereof and attach undue importance thereto. The great majority of God's judgments are not retaliatory. 'It was an ethical maxim extensively accepted among ancient nations that men must suffer the same pains that they inflicted on others. The later Greeks called this the Neoptolemic Tisis from the circumstance that Neoptolemus was punished in the same way in which he had sinned. He had murdered at the altar and at the altar he was murdered. Phalaris had roasted human beings in a brazen bull, and the same punishmnent was inflicted on himself.' Dr. Farrar says of the punishment inflicted on Adoni-bezek: 'This kind of punishment was not common in ancient days. The cutting of the thumbs would prevent a man from ever again drawing a bow or wielding a sword. The cutting off of his great toes would deprive a man of that speed which was so essential for an ancient warrior.' But though retributive punishments of this kind are not recognized in modern times it is peculiar how the old sentiment still prevails so that great satisfaction is felt in hearing of cases where Providence deals the blow to men which they have dealt to others."

Coming Events . . .

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 4—Independence Day

July 4—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, and Wilson

July 9—Homecoming and Annual Alumni Meeting, Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

July 10—Revision Committee of Statement and Discipline of Original Free Will Baptists will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina at 10 a. m.

July 14, 15—Summer Orientation I, Mount Olive College

July 17-20—Ministers' Conference, Cragmont Assembly

July 30—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention

July 30—Mount Olive Sunday in Local Churches

July 30—Central Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention



HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!

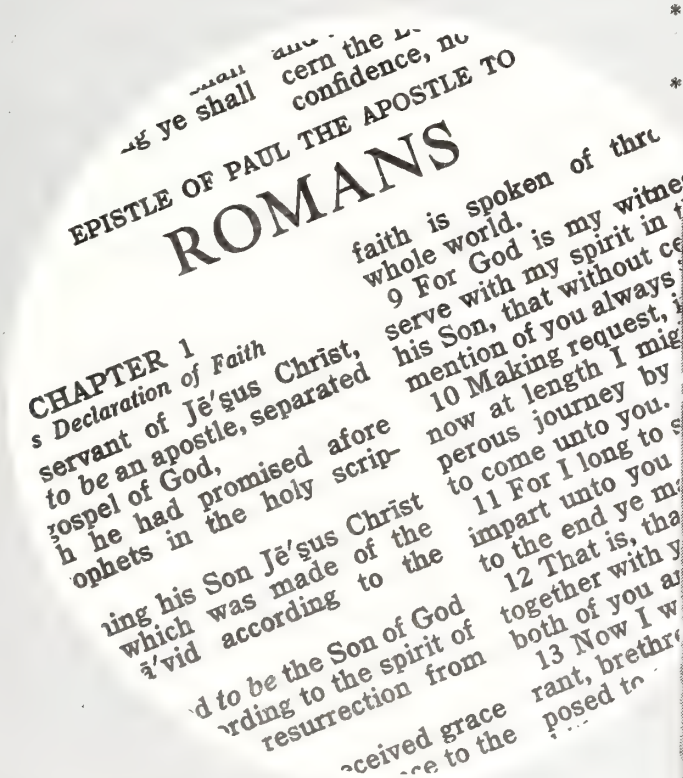


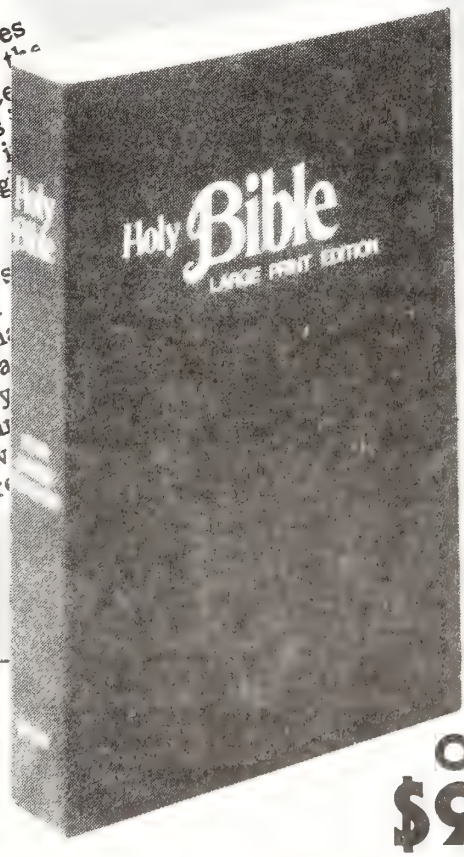
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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For July 9

PEOPLE WITH HOPE

Lesson Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-18
Memory Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:23

I. INTRODUCTION

These are among the greatest words in the vocabulary of the Christian. We meet two of them—love and hope—in this lesson. We realize it is faith in Jesus as Lord and Saviour that has brought us into grace. Paul says, in Romans 5:1, 2, "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."

The entrance into the realm of grace is through faith. This then leads us to walk in love and to rejoice in hope. Just what, at least in part, is involved in this walk of love, and what is included in the hope of glory in which we rejoice, shall be considered in this lesson.

Since our lesson today continues the survey of 1 Thessalonians begun in our last lesson, not much in the way of background needs to be noted. It can be said, though, that 1 Thessalonians 3:1—4:8 consists mostly of a personal discussion of Paul's continuing concern for the Christians at Thessalonica. He tells about his anxiety that their faith might be shaken because they had heard of the trials and persecutions he had had to endure. Because of his concern he had sent Timothy to visit them. Upon Timothy's return with a report that they were still firm in their faith and still cordially disposed toward Paul, the apostle was greatly heartened (3:1-8). He prayed they might continue in the faith and that he might be permitted to visit them again (vv. 9-11). He then prayed for their increase in love and their establishment in the faith (vv. 12, 13). Practical admonitions about walking in Christian faithfulness and purity of life followed. These matters were mentioned as reminders of what Paul had already taught when he was with them (4:1-8). This brings us to the material contained in our current lesson.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Paul's letters to the church in Thessalonica seem to indicate that this particular church held a special place in the apostle's heart. Remember that in last Sunday's lesson he spoke of the people there as his "glory and joy," even though he had been badly treated by some who opposed his ministry there.

B. We can see how he felt about the brethren in Thessalonica by studying his instructions and spiritual directions, as recorded in Chapters 3 and 4 of his first letter to them. Nowhere else does he express himself with such love and careful interest in the brethren. (Before reading the printed text, the student should read these chapters, especially 4:1-8.)

C. Not only did he advise, instruct, and inspire his friends in Christian service, he also spoke to them of the blessed hope of the final resurrection of the believers in Christ. The last portion of the lesson today concerns this message. As we read it, we, too, will capture something of the hope these people must have had. In this message, we find our own glory and joy, knowing that those who faithfully serve Christ are promised a more glorious beginning of a better life when this one is over.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. One of Paul's reasons for writing 1 Thessalonians was to set them straight about the resurrection from the dead and the return of Christ. He gives us the best description of the Rapture in all the Bible. He wrote it to comfort the disturbed hearts of the Thessalonian Christians, but it also brings great comfort to the sorrowing heart today.

B. In the first part of today's lesson, Paul admonishes the Thessalonian Christians to mind their own business and work with their own hands. Some felt that since Christ was coming soon, there was no reason to work. No man knows the time of the Lord's return. We ought to work as though we thought Christ were never coming, and live as though we were sure that He would come tomorrow.

C. The Bible teaches us that there are three things every Christian should do while awaiting the coming of the Lord. First, wait with expectation and patience. Second, work with diligence. Finally, witness with power—the power of the Holy Spirit.

D. Some teach that the wicked will not be raised from the dead, but the Bible teaches that there will be a first and a second resurrection. The first resurrection is the resurrection of the righteous. Christ was the firstfruits of this first resurrection. The second resurrection is the resurrection of the wicked dead. This will take place much later. It is described in Revelation 20 and is followed by the judgment for the wicked—the Judgment of the Great White Throne.

E. Three very comforting truths come out of this lesson: (1) the certainty of the Lord's return; (2) the assurance of our resurrection from the dead; and (3) the fact that God's people will live together forever with the Lord Jesus Christ.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

ATTENTION!

The Free Will Baptist Press and the Branch Bookstores will be closed June 30 for inventory.



story corner

THE LAST MEAL

MANY, many years ago, there was a wicked king of Israel named, Ahab. He and his wife, Jezebel, set up idols and worshiped them instead of the real God. Naturally this displeased God. He became very angry with them and told His prophet, Elijah, to tell them that He would not send rain upon the earth in the land of Israel for a long, long time.

The people would have a famine because there would not be any rain to water their crops. There would soon be nothing to eat. God told Elijah to go up into the mountains to a certain place and hide from Ahab. It would be impossible for Elijah to get any food, so God told him that He would send ravens to feed him.

Elijah did hide from the angry king. Each morning and each night ravens would come to his hiding place to bring him bread and meat in their bills.

He got his water from a brook near the hiding place.

After a long time of no rain, the brook dried up. Elijah had no water and would soon die of thirst. He asked God what he must do, and God said, "Go down to the city of Zarephath. There is a widow that I have prepared to take care of you."

Elijah went down to the city. As he neared the gates, he saw a woman at the well. He said to her, "Get some water for me to drink."

As she started to get it for him, he asked her also to bring him some bread.

"But I have only enough meal and oil to make bread for me and my son this one time. Then we must die, for there is no more food to be had. I am a widow and have nothing more."

"Make the bread for me first; then there will be enough meal and oil for you and your son."

The woman went into her house with the sticks that she had gathered to make the fire. She looked into the barrel where she kept the meal. There was just enough for one piece of bread. Sadly she scraped the bottom.

Then she went to the jar where she kept the oil. Again there was just enough for the making of one piece of bread. She emptied it. She made the bread for the prophet, even though it took all of the food she had.

After she had taken it to Elijah, he told her to go back and make bread for her and her son.

"But Sir," she said, "there is no more meal, and I used all of the oil in the bread for you."

Elijah shook his head, "I told you there would be enough to feed you and your son after you had fed me. Go and look again."

She did. There, to her amazement, was more meal in the barrel! She hurried to the jar. There was more oil! Quickly she used it to make more bread. Then she went again and looked into the barrel. Again she was surprised because there was still more meal and in the jar there was more oil.

She hurried to the prophet to tell him what had happened. He told her, "As long as there is a famine in the land, there will be enough meal in the barrel and oil in the jar to feed us."

So Elijah stayed with the widow and her son. She continued to be surprised each day as she went to prepare the bread. The meal was always there; enough oil was always in the jar too.

Elijah was known to do many more miracles, also. One day the little boy of the widow fell sick. He was so very sick! Instead of getting better and being well, he died. The widow was so very sad! Her husband was already dead, and now her only son. It seemed to be more than she could bear.

She ran to Elijah and told him what had happened. Elijah took the boy up into the loft where he was living and laid him on his own bed. He knelt beside the boy and prayed to God. He stretched himself over the boy three times and said, "Oh Lord, My God, I pray Thee, let this child live again."

The Lord heard Elijah, and the boy started to breathe again. Elijah took the boy and brought him down out of the loft to his mother. She was so happy to have her boy with her again!

Elijah continued to live in the loft, and the widow continued to feed him.

Finally, the news of the wicked things that the king was doing were too much for Elijah to take. He had to come out and face the king and his very wicked wife.

Ahab, the king, had wanted a certain vineyard. But the man would not give it to him or sell it. It made the king very unhappy. Queen Jezebel secretly ordered that the man be killed. Then she told Ahab to go and claim the vineyard.

It made Elijah so angry to think that the king would kill a man just for a vineyard that he went to tell Ahab he would not be allowed to live much longer. God was displeased with him and was going to see to it that he was killed in the same spot as the man from whom he wanted the vineyard.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

ATTENTION!

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, and Wilson—will be closed on July 4.

NEWS & NOTES

Pleasant Hill Members Visit Mrs. G. C. Joyner



Mrs. G. C. Joyner

On April 30, nine members from Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville, went to see Mrs. G. C. Joyner. She is the widow of the late Rev. G. C. Joyner, who had been pastor of Pleasant Hill church for 13 years. He and his wife served the church faithfully. The church increased in number and grew spiritually. Both Mr. and Mrs. Joyner were well loved in the church and community.



Pleasant Hill Church Members and Mrs. Joyner

Mr. Joyner died in February of 1967. Since then Mrs. Joyner has lived with a daughter, Mrs. Norma Eubanks, in Pittsboro. Mrs. Joyner was taken ill in January and stayed in the hospital for nine weeks. Upon leaving the hospital, she was taken to the Convalescent Care Nursing Home of Sanford. As soon as she is able to walk and manage herself, she will return to her daughter's. The ladies carried a sunshine box, roses, fruit, and an offering to Mrs. Joyner.

Western District Youth Rally First Church, Durham

The Western District Youth Rally was held at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, on Saturday, June 24, at 7:30 p. m.

Deacon Appreciation Day Sound Side Church

On Father's Day, June 18, it was a special day at Sound Side Free Will Baptist Church, near Columbia, as the church paid tribute to its deacons. The YFA planned the program with one of its members, Mike Reynolds, an art student, doing a beautiful sketch of the renovated church for reproduction on the cover of the bulletin.

The program started with a word of tribute and a boutonniere to the pastor, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs, by Robin Sawyer and his daughter, Ann. Then a brief sketch of the life of each deacon was given by a son or daughter who also presented his or her father with a boutonniere and a certificate of appreciation. The last father honored was Marvin Hassell, the church bus driver and a very loyal supporter of the church and especially of the Youth. His tribute and certificate were presented by Lynn O'Neal and his daughter, Anita. The special program concluded with a song by the Brickhouse Sisters and James.

James Cohorn coordinated the program at the close of the worship hour, everybody had dinner and fellowship together. The following deacons were honored:

Edmond Brickhouse, chairman, by his daughter, Linda; Marvin Sawyer, by his daughter, Cindy; Wayne Brickhouse, by his son, Bruce; Willard Cohorn, by his daughter, Anita; Chester Cooper, by his daughter, Vickie; Frank Spitzig, by his niece, Diana Noughton; and Richard Swain, by James Cohorn.

The flowers in the church were given in memory of the past deacons.

Children's Home

REVELATORS TO APPEAR



The Revelators

The Revelators of Wadesville, Indiana, will be performing at the Children's Home on Sunday afternoon, July 9, at 3 p. m. They will be sponsored by the Alumni Association of the Children's Home. There will be no admission charged; however, an offering will be taken for the current alumni project—the completion of the tennis-basketball court. Everyone is urged to come and support the Alumni Association in its effort to provide for the needs of the Home that cared for them in their youth.

LADIES AUXILIARY HELPFUL IN MEETING CHILDREN'S HOME NEEDS

The ladies of the auxiliary have provided many needed items to the Children's Home over the years. Recent

projects have included blankets, quilts, and the grills. Thank you, ladies, for your help.



Pictured above is Mrs. Dovie Ferrell of the St. Mary's Grove Woman's Auxiliary presenting barbeque grills to Mrs. Mary Mitchell of the Children's Home.

If your group would like to help with a special project, or if you would like to have a Home representative visit your church, please contact us at once.

Churches and Ministers Available

Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, near Wilson, is in search of a pastor. If interested, please contact Mr. Lloyd Wiggs Jr. at Route 4, Wilson, North Carolina 27893 or by phoning 237-6248. If there is no answer, please dial 291-1390, Turner Oil Company, in Wilson.

Family Devotions

(Continued from Page 6)

has given me a cheerful heart, it will be pardoned to me that I serve Him with a cheerful spirit."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Would that we serve God with a lightness in our hearts, brought about by our love for Him and our knowledge of our salvation.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

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Feature

(Continued from Page 4)

room, we had enough faith to believe that God would deliver my grandfather from his illness. In Matthew 17:20, Jesus says. . .''If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.'' Even though, some would not listen to our witnessing, tracts placed on the tables were picked up and soon were being read.

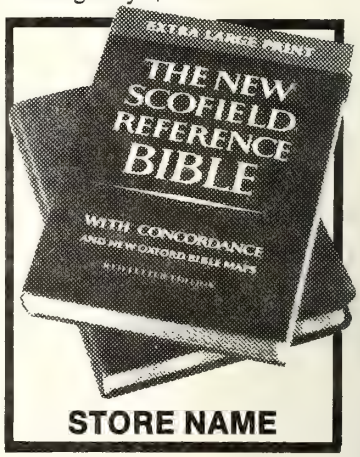
We should always be prepared to meet death and God. The Bible says that no one knows the time or the place, not even the angels in Heaven. Death may come as a thief in the night, in the twinkling of an eye.

When you are saved, you should work for God and let His will be done in your life. This is one of my main goals in life—to serve God in the best way I know while I am alive, so that when I die, I will receive my rewards as a child of God in Heaven.

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Month.

THERE
IS
SOMETHING
TO BE
SAID
ABOUT
BEING
SECOND.



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JULY 5, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Editorial . . .

Photo by Camerique

THE IMPORTANCE OF "SECOND BEST"

Until recently I had thought there was stigma attached to being considered *second best* or being in the *number two position*. That was before I heard a visiting speaker at my home church point out the *importance* of being second best.

He approached the subject with gentle spirit and then hit us hard with the idea that too many persons want first place and the acclaim and prestige that such affords.

Too many people—probably because they are human—want that first place, the first seat, "the upper chamber" sometimes described in the Bible. But while the number one spot is of notable consequence, it could not be accorded such honored acclamation unless there were a *second place* and *someone to fill it.*

Here is where the point becomes clear. The person who comes in second, the person who is considered second best by whatever judges there are, has made it possible for someone else (that first place winner) to perform to his full potential—to give the very best of his talents, abilities, or whatever. If the second place were not filled, the first would be of little significance. So, however unlauded the second best may be, when considered from a newer perspective, it becomes as important as if not more important than the first!

"Seconds" have always been regarded as a little less valuable. Garments, tools, and machinery are often priced lower because of some flaw which causes them not to measure up to standard. They are serviceable but are judged to be just a little under par. Because, then, they do not meet certain specifications, they are deemed *inferior*, and inspectors tag them with such statements as "This product is irregular and is being sold at a lower price because of a minor defect which does not affect the usefulness of the product." Sometimes *persons* are not as capable as their peers. All have not been given equal talent or intellect, and all cannot be expected to perform at the same level. But *no one* should be discounted as worthless.

We would not suggest that anyone should give less than he has, but his best may not compare favorably to another's. But the idea of measuring someone against another is not too good an idea, for we are individuals and are not expected to do the *same things* and to the *same degree of excellence.*

The best that we have is all we can expect to possess. Certainly we can improve; we can develop through diligent practice. But too many of us seem satisfied with mediocrity, when we could (and should) rise above it. On the other hand, there are those who cannot *tolerate* being less than the best; they must have all the spotlight or none at all. They will not share; they seem intent on pushing others out of the way for their own selfish gain.

A knowledgeable and much respected college president once said, "The Lord never called anyone to do inferior work for Him." The statement is true, but we must take into account what the word *inferior* means. It means *second rate, of substandard quality, not measuring up to par.* Our *personal* definition of *inferior* may not be accurate; we must define it in accord with what we can do, what capabilities are ours. Our *best* may be someone else's *worst*, but if we

(Continued on Page 16)

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We May Pass This Way

JULY 5, 1978

Volume 93 Number 2

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IN MEMORY OF EARL HEATH HOLTON

(February 16, 1912—May 8, 1978)



Earl Heath Holton

". . . God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life " (John 3:16).

This simple but profound statement of Scripture expresses the faith by which Earl Holton lived.

I shall always remember my last visit with him. Immediately upon learning that he was in the hospital, I drove from Mount Olive to New Bern. It was in the evening, and as I traveled east down the long straight stretch of U. S. Highway 70, I looked in the rear view mirror and saw the most brilliant sunset I can remember. The sun was a perfect orange, so bright that it literally hurt my eyes through the mirror.

The visit with Earl was brief. I offered a prayer and felt his response through the grip of his hand. As I rose to leave he said, "Tell everyone I love them."

Back on the highway, the sun had set but there was a bright lone star straight above the road as if God had put it there to show the way home. The symbolism of the sunset and the guiding star were unmistakable.

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me,
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full of sound and foam,
When that which drew from out the boundless deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness and farewell,
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

—Alfred Lord Tennyson

Captain Earl sailed some stormy seas during the voyage of his life on earth, but with God as his Pilot he has now brought his ship safely into the harbor of Eternal Peace.

Earl Holton was one of the finest men, one of the most sincere Christians and one of the best friends I have ever known. We have not come here today to pay him our last respect, but to give thanks for his life that was lived so well and to affirm our faith in Eternal life.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them " (Revelation 14:13).

Yes, the life that Earl Holton lived will be a light, like a shining star, upon the paths of men for years yet to come.

W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College

EARL H. HOLTON

Born: February 16, 1912, Pamlico County, North Carolina

Married: Ovelma Spruill of Pamlico County

Children: Joyce (Mrs. Ralph Forrest, Vandemere
Judy (Mrs. Jim Taanum), Vandemere
Four grandchildren

Church: Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Vandemere
(Chairman, Board of Deacons)
Board of Directors of Camp Vandemere
Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College (1959-1971)

Occupation: Commercial Seafood, Farming, and Business

Civic and Community:
Board of Directors of the North Carolina Fisheries Association
Commerial and Sports Fisheries Committee
The John Motley Morehead Foundation Selection Committee for Pamlico County
Past Mayor of Vandemere
Past President of North Carolina Fisheries Association

Deceased: May 8, 1978
Funeral Service conducted by his pastor, the Rev. Buddy Sasser and Dr. W.Burkette Raper, president, Mount Olive College
Burial in Celestial Gardens, Vandemere

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
EARL H. HOLTON
By The
Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College
Mount Olive , North Carolina

Whereas, Earl H. Holton served with dedication and effectiveness as a member of the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College from September, 1959, to September, 1971, and
Whereas, from the beginning of the College he contributed generously to its development and advancement; and
Whereas, he worked faithfully on behalf of the College through Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church and throughout Pamlico County, and
Whereas, he possessed those qualities of a Christian gentleman which reflected honor and dignity on the Board of Trustees of this institution;

Therefore Be It Resolved

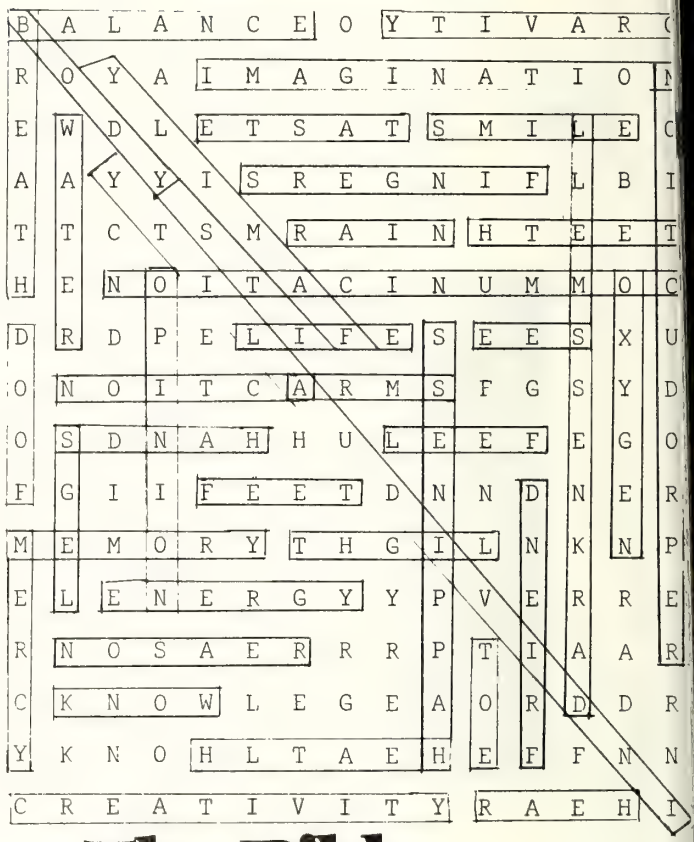
1. That the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College express to Mrs. Holton and to other members of his family our deep sorrow and sincere sympathy in this hour of our common loss; and
2. That the Board of Trustees cause to be recorded in its permanent records this resolution of appreciation for the life and services of Earl H. Holton to Mount Olive College and to his fellowman;

By action of the Board of Trustees of Mount Olive College in official session on May 9, 1978, in Mount Olive, North Carolina.

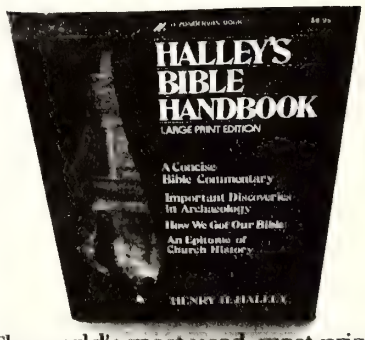
MY PERSONAL BLESSINGS

by Nancy Matthews

Answers to Last Week's Puzzle



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MY CALL TO WITNESS

by Katrina Cartrette
YFA Member of
Beaverdam Free Will Baptist Church
Chadbourn, N.C. 28431

WHEN I think of my call to witness, I think of telling those that do not know of the love of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, about the way He has changed my life and the way He can change theirs.

As we examine the subject of Christian witnessing in God's Holy Word, we find that it is one of the paramount factors of true Christian living. Not only are we obligated to Christ to tell the lost about His great love and His will to save sinners, but we are also obligated to live our daily lives in such a manner that the unbeliever may observe us and see the reality of his salvation.

We read in Chapter 10, Verses 41-43 of the Book of Acts:

> 41. Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.
>
> 42. And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead.
>
> 43. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

In this passage of Scripture Simon, whose surname is Peter, is speaking to Cornelius, a centurion of a band. Peter is telling Cornelius that he and the other eleven disciples were witnesses of all the events which happened to Jesus in Palestine and in Jerusalem. Peter told Cornelius that not all people, even to himself and the other disciples, if they were not chosen of God they would not witness these events. Peter and the other eleven disciples had eaten and drunk with him on the third day after He had risen from the dead. This was one of the many events the disciples witnessed during the period of time they spent with Jesus.

Peter tells Cornelius in Verse 42 that Jesus was the one ordained of God to judge the quick and the dead and they were to preach this unto the people. Just as Peter was commanded to preach this to the people, we as Christians are also commanded to do likewise.

Peter says in Verse 43 that God will be given all prophets witness that whosoever would believe in His name would receive remission of sins. In other words, we are to witness that Jesus Christ, the Son of God will free us of our sins if we will only believe on Him.

We, as Christians, are to share the Word of God with those who do not know, or have heard and yet do not believe in Him. Our purpose is to work to win souls for Christ, so they too can endeavor to promote Christ's kingdom among men.

The poem below was very inspiring to me and I would like to share it with you. I hope it will be as impressive and meaningful to you as it was to me.

Give us a watchword for the hour,
A thrilling word, a word of power;
A battle cry, a flaming breath,
A call to conquest or to death;
A word to rouse the church from rest,
To heed the master's high behest;
The call is given, ye host arise;
The watchword is Evangelize!
A fallen man, a dying race,
Make known the gift of gospel grace,
The world that now in darkness lies,
O church of Christ, Evangelize!

I feel if Christians would all get out and witness, together we could bring thousands and thousands of sheep to God's harvest. They need a friend, a guide, a person they can trust in times of adversity, they need God! It is our duty as Christians to help them find that special person called, Jesus! We are God's disciples, we are commanded to witness unto all creatures.

Mark 16:15, 16 reads:

> 15. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
>
> 16. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

When Christ spoke these commanding words, He meant for missionaries and evangelists to go to diverse places of the world and preach to the people.

It did not mean you and I as Christians must go all over the world ministering and telling others of Him, but it does mean we are to tell people around us about Him and to also keep our light shining brightly. God has commanded us to witness, so Christians let us fulfill our mission!

NOTICE

Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline of Original Free Will Baptists will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina, on July 10 at 10 a. m.



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Total: $26,102.38

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Stoney Creek	75.00
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Union Chapel	37.00
Union Grove	192.50
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Watson's Grove	50.00
Wilson	1,250.00
TOTAL	$6,862.57

OTHER STATES

Laurel City, West Virginia	$ 132.88
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Shelby, Ohio	69.12
Bim Ladies Aid	10.00
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TOTAL	$ 257.00

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Auxiliary Life Award and Christian Service Fees	
TOTAL	$ 234.05

EMERSON YOUTH GIVE OFFERING FROM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TO CHILDREN'S HOME

The vacation Bible school students of the Emerson Free Will Baptist Church at Tabor City presented their Bible school offering to the Children's Home. The children gave $53 to provide for the care of our boys and girls here at the Children's Home. Our Heavenly Father is particularly pleased when we give unselfishly to others who are less fortunate than ourselves.

CHILDREN'S HOME TREATED TO COOKOUT



Cookout being prepared

On Saturday, June 10, the children and staff of the Home were treated to a cookout by the members of the C. R. Bolling Sunday School Class of Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton.



Wiener Roast

An old-fashioned wiener roast with all the trimmings was served. After the cookout there were softball and basketball games and other activities. The day was completed with the serving of various flavors of homemade ice cream. It was a fun day and we appreciate the kindness shown to us by our fellow Christians.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For July 16

STEADFAST WORKERS

Lesson Text: 2 Thessalonians 3:1-16
Memory Verse: 2 Thessalonians 3:13

I. INTRODUCTION

Authority figures seem to have a difficult time today. We see this problem in every realm of our society. The father or mother in a family truly desires to be a friend or a pal to sons or daughters. One does not want to become a taskmaster who cracks the whip or one who is always bossing people around. Yet there must be some point at which definite stands must be taken about neatness, cleanliness, etc. There must be some ordering of existence in a well-disciplined family, and someone must be responsible for it.

The same troubles confront teachers in schools who want learning to be a pleasant, shared experience, but who still must insist on a content of material that has to be mastered. It doesn't do much good if pupils like their teacher and don't really learn to read, write, spell, multiply, or subtract. To "like" to study geography and yet not know whether the Yukon River is in Alabama or Alaska is not very helpful. Coaches of athletic teams have problems today in securing discipline in the way athletes play the game in which they are specializing. Too many participants will quit the team if the coach gets on them by trying to correct their style of play or by insisting they conform their play to some need of their team.

Paul was an authority figure as far as the church at Thessalonica was concerned. It is interesting to see how he shared with them as a brother in Christ and still sought to direct their Christian experience as an apostle. He both rejoiced in the faithfulness of some and rebuked the listlessness of others. Three times in the verses we now are to study he spoke of "commands" he was giving them as an apostle. Some attitudes and actions had to be rebuked for the good of the entire Christian community. The Christian character is not that of an oozy jellyfish that absorbs everything and has no definite skeletal framework. There are certain firm outlines of Christian responsibility for living, and these Paul gently but firmly pointed out and insisted upon.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Today's lesson is from the second of Paul's Thessalonian epistles. After writing the first epistle, Paul received more news from the Thessalonians, evidently brought by the carrier of his first epistle. The news was disturbing. The Thessalonians had received a letter, which was purported to be from Paul, telling them that they were now living in the Day of the Lord. Paul knew that the letter was a forgery.

B. The background of both of the Thessalonian epistles indicates that the church was being severely persecuted. Their trials, and the letter they received, prompted some to wonder whether they were living in the Day of the Lord. (The Day of the Lord is described at length in the Old Testament and Paul wrote to them about it in 1 Thessalonians.) They were beginning to wonder if this were the tribulation period, when great judgments will be poured out upon the earth before the Second Coming of Christ.

C. Paul wrote this second epistle to clarify the ideas that many of them had about the tribulation period. He wanted them to know that the persecutions they were undergoing were the normal hardships that God's people may expect. The Rapture of the Saints had not taken place. So in the three chapters of this second epistle, Paul deals with the Second Coming of Christ in three different aspects. In chapter one he tells of the coming of the Lord and comfort in the present persecution. In chapter two he tells of the coming of the Lord and the Day of the Lord. In chapter three he tells of the coming of the Lord and practical Christian living.

D. The Scripture for today, from chapter three, deals with the coming of the Lord and practical Christian living.

—**The Bible Teacher (F. W. B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Jesus spoke His first recorded words to His mother, Mary, and to Joseph, when He said, "I must be about my Father's business." Jesus set the example as a worker in His Father's vineyard, which is the world. If we want to please Him we will follow that example and be steadfast in service for Him.

B. Christians are not merely learners and worshipers, they are workers too. The biggest business in the world is that of reconciling the world to God, and those who engage in that work are big business men, women, and young people. Dwight L. Moody once asked a fellow traveler on a train what his business was. The man answered, "My chief business is serving the Lord, but I sell livestock to pay expenses." When all Christians have such a relationship with Christ, His kingdom will advance.

C. In the printed text, a portion of his second letter to the Thessalonians,

Paul stressed the need for Christian service and for being diligent in whatever our vocation in life may be. We are not to be idlers in this world, but should, as we are physically able, work to make a living for ourselves; we must not live on the labors of others. Jesus calls for steadfast workers in Christian service and in secular endeavors.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F. W. B.)**

For July 23

THE GOSPEL CONFRONTS VESTED INTERESTS

Lesson Text: Acts 19:23-28, 35-39
Memory Verse: Psalm 135:5

I. INTRODUCTION

Paul and his companions were truly "on fire" with the Spirit as they did their work for God. As they preached, lives were changed and old ways were challenged. Former magicians and sorcerers in Ephesus brought their books of occult arts and publicly burned them. This was a dramatic act involving the destruction of rare volumes of wizardry worth many thousands of dollars.

Such vivid and penetrating influence and outreach was bound to have effects far beyond those immediately involved. The whole focus of life and concern in the city was being changed. Since this involved the loss of various kinds of trade associated with the status quo, opposition developed. Fiery faith and dramatic victories called forth fiery speeches and actions in reply. These events graphically illustrated Peter's words, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings" (1 Peter 4:12, 13).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Point out that this lesson begins a study of Paul's third missionary journey. Observe that all three of his missionary journeys began at Antioch.

B. We have emphasized the use of maps in this study of Acts because it is important to be able to see the location of the cities where Paul ministered, and their geographical relationships to one another.

C. This lesson reveals something of the power structure that existed then, which still exists in some manner in many communities. Usually, the center of political power is corrupt. (It does not have to be, but it usually is.)

D. Emphasize the importance of standing up against the power structure whenever it is necessary to stand for the gospel of Christ and righteousness. This is not always easy.

E. Christians have a responsibility to expose selfish and ulterior motives in high places. However, before you attack the other fellow's motives, you should make sure that your own motive is correct.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The main purpose of the church in the world is to witness to the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are to win converts to the cause of Christ, and, when this is done, we are to nurture them in the things of spiritual value. This task will continue until Christ returns.

B. But the church also has a secondary role: to teach men the true values of life, to show both the saved and unsaved that there is a "more excellent way" than what the world has to offer. The battle is between materialism and spiritual concerns. Men need to learn that there are greater values in following Christ than in amassing the perishable things of this world.

C. Paul saw this urgent need while he was in Ephesus. This was a wicked, pagan city, filled with idolatry and people possessed with an overwhelming desire to profit from religious practices. Paul never lost sight of the main purpose of his ministry, but he sought opportunities to offer the Christian challenge to the real values of life.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Nothing to Hold On To—D. L. Moody, the great American evangelist, told this story in one of his sermons: "It is related of an atheist who was dying that he appeared very uncomfortable, very unhappy and frightened. Another atheist who stood at his bedside said to him: 'Don't be afraid. Hold on, man, hold on to the last.'

"The dying man said: 'That is what I want to do, but tell me what to hold on to!' "

Your Walk Tells—Two men were standing on the side of the street talking when a third man walked past them. "That man must have been in the army, or in a military school," the first man said.

"Yes," the other man said. "How did you know?"

"By the way he walks."

You can tell that some people have been with Jesus Christ by the way they walk.

"**Do Not Disturb**"—A hotel maid was fussing because every room she went to had a, "Do not Disturb," sign hung outside. "How can I do my work?" she asked, "If no one wants to be disturbed?"

(Continued on Page 13)

NEWS & NOTES

Victory Mission Has Bible School

Victory Free Will Baptist Mission, Hope Mills, would like to announce its Bible school, beginning July 10 and continuing through July 14. It will begin at 7:30 p. m. and end at 9:30 p. m. Everyone is welcome to come and worship the Lord.

Church and Minister Launch Full-Time Services



The Rev. and Mrs. Franklin Brinson

King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Fountain, called the Rev. and Mrs. Franklin Brinson into full-time services as of July 1, 1978.

Mr. Brinson comes to King's Cross Roads as a member in good standing with the Eastern Conference. He has been serving in pastoral work since 1965 when he was licensed to preach the gospel. Upon meeting the requirements of his conference, he was ordained into the ministry in 1969.

With a full-time pastor, the church will provide many full-time Christian services and opportunities for people of all age groups. King's Cross Roads requests everyone's prayers for a great and mighty work and many souls for the Lord.

Harry Jones Leaves Hugo Church



The Rev. Harry Jones

On July 1, 1973, the Rev. Harry A. Jones became the pastor of Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, near Grifton. At that time the church was operating on a half-time basis. Under his leadership, on July 1, 1974, Hugo began operating with full-time pastoral services.

On June 30, 1978, Mr. Jones ended five years of service as pastor of Hugo. During this time a fellowship building was erected and equipped; a junior church was begun; a men's fellowship was organized; the YFA was reorganized; and contributions to the state projects were substantially increased. There have been numerous conversions and he has officiated at several church related dedications, weddings, and funerals.

NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to thank each Sunday school class and auxiliary for the lovely cards, gifts, and money I received during the holiday season and on my birthday. A special thank you goes to my special friends for the many acts of kindness shown me. I will never forget you, and will always keep you dear to my heart. I am asking all my friends to remember me in their prayers.

Your friend in Christ,
Mrs. G. C. Joyner

NO "BAPTIST" JULY 12

In accordance with our policy of printing only 50 issues of "The Free Will Baptist" each year, there will be no "Baptist" on July 12. The next issue you will receive will be the issue of July 19.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will be guest minister at Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Nash County on Sunday, June 9 at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Donald Coates is pastor.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

Answering Your QUESTIONS

by J. P. Barrow
Route 1, Box 475
LaGrange, N. C. 28551

Question: Should a young Christian who recently found Christ as her Saviour give up every thing that might furnish occasion for sinful thought?

Ansdwer: I believe that the logical answer to this question should be a definite yes. While you are young and the Holy Spirit is keeping you aware of the presence and working power of the marvelous grace of God recently shed forth in your heart, mind, and thoughts, it is a good time to personally appropriate and apply with strong determination such Bible passages as, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:1, 2).

You had to make a clean break with the devil, with sin, the world and the flesh including sinful desires and unchaste emotions of the old nature. The old nature will not cease to be as long as you are in this present body, but you can keep it crucified.

Paul said of his own state while in the body that is before the natural death or before the natural man dies: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20); "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord " (Romans 6:23). Paul was always looking forward to victory and never back nor to a time of defeat, and that is what we should be doing, whether young or old, when we have become Christians.

We were purged by the Holy Spirit when we were saved, but in the process of keeping us purged the Holy Spirit always works in harmony with our wills and never contrary to our wills, John wrote: "If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him" (John 7:17, 18); "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7).

The Spirit performed the work when you were saved and He will do all that needs to be done in, through, and to you, if you are obedient to the Word of God: "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit" (1 Corinthians 12:13); "And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kindgom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (2 Timothy 4:18); "The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead" (Proverbs 11:8); "He shall deliver thee in six troubles: yea, in seven there shall no evil touch thee. In famine he shall redeem thee from death: and in war from the power of the sword" (Job 5:19, 20).

Let's remember too what the Holy Spirit inspired Paul to write to Christians: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. . . . But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:13, 19). God cares and in the person of the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Godhead He remains with each and every born again Christian to enlighten, guide and empower against every evil one and thing. Jesus said of Himself "I will be with you unto the end."

TODAY IS YOURS

by Loy Everette Ballard

Another day is given you,
With its joys and its cares:
Live as though it were the last day;
Or the first of many years:
For life is not made up of years or days
But of things we do and say;
Of our thoughts and meditations;
Of the good we leave along the way.

Tomorrow will forever be
Just one day beyond our reach:
But today is here and now
Its joy to give, its lessons to teach.
'Tis a gift from God—use it well.
It is the most dated thing He gives.
When it's gone, it's gone forever,
But its good for all time lives.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Robert Rollins announces that he has a change of address. His new address is the Rev. Robert Rollins, Route 7, Box 469, Kinston, North Carolina 28501. His phone number is 527-2730.

Christ sends none away empty except those who are full of themselves.



SUNDAY, JULY 9

Scripture Reading—Psalm 4:5

WHY WORRY?

A French soldier in World War I carried with him this little recipe for worry: "Of two things, one is certain. Either you are at the front, or you are behind the lines. If you are at the front, of two things one is certain. Either you are exposed to danger, or you are in a safe place. If you are exposed to danger, of two things one is certain. Either you are wounded, or you are not wounded. If you are wounded, of two things one is certain. Either you recover, or you die. If you recover, there is no need to worry. If you die, you can't worry. SO WHY WORRY?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

A Christian should turn his heart to God and forget worry. God cares for you.

MONDAY, JULY 10

Scripture Reading—Romans 3:19

NO COMPROMISE

A number of years ago in Washington I was returning from visiting friends one cold night in January, when our car suddenly stopped. It showed no disposition to move on, so I asked the conductor what was wrong.

"A car off the track ahead," he said.

As cold as the night was, I got off with him to investigate, and found the car in such a position as to block our progress entirely. I turned to my friend, the conductor, and said: "It seems to me that car is not off the track. If it were, we could go on."

"That's right," he said, "the trouble is it is partly on and partly off."

Those who hinder the work of Christ's kingdom are not only the avowed unbelievers, but those partly on and partly off the track.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus will not accept a lukewarm Christian. He likes a person to be willing to work for Him anywhere and any place.

TUESDAY, JULY 11

Scripture Reading—Galatians 6:14

LOT'S WIFE

A Denver minister, in a sermon, suggested: When Lot's wife turned back to look at Sodom (Genesis 19:26), it was not a glance at the doomed city with a thankful heart that she had escaped. But her eyes lingered upon Sodom, with a question in her heart, "Why did such a catastrophe have to come to such a lovely city?"

The judgment of God fell upon Lot's wife and turned her into a pillar of salt because:

First: Her heart was still in Sodom and she longed to be back there.

Second: Sodom was in her heart and if she had continued up to the mountains (place of God) she would have started another Sodom there.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God will not forget His people, but people will forget God; therefore, some times they may even lose Him.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 16:12

WORK!

Work!
Thank God for the might of it—
The ardor, the urge, the delight of it
Work that springs from the heart's desire
Setting the brain and soul on fire
Oh, what is so good as the heat of it?
And what is so glad as the beat of it?
And what is so kind as the stern command
Challenging brain and heart and hand?

Work!
Thank God for the swing of it
For the clamoring, hammering ring of it.
Passion and labor daily hurled
On the mighty anvils of the world.

Oh, what is so fierce as the flame of it?
And what is so huge as the aim of it?
Thundering on through dearth and doubt
Calling the plan of the Maker out.
Work, the Titan; work, the friend,
Shaping the earth to a glorious end,
Draining the swamps and blasting the hills.
Doing whatever the Spirit wills—
Rending a continent apart
To answer the dream of the Masterheart.
Thank God for the world where none may shirk.
Thank God for the splendor of work.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God said that it is good for man to work to make a living. God himself worked to make the world and all that is in it, but He rested on the Sabbath Day.

THURSDAY, JULY 13

Scripture Reading—Romans 7:18

BLESSED BLOCKADES!

Sitting on a fallen tree trunk in the woods I observed a large black ant

rawling leisurely along. Interested n seeing what the insect would do I ropped a piece of cracker near it. he falling fragment scared the ant nd it started away. I blocked its way ith my finger. It started in another irection, and again I blocked it, and inally succeeded in guiding it to the rumb which it immediately seized nd began to devour avidly. Doubtless hat ant thought the blocking of its hosen path a hardship. It may have een rebellious, wondering what that ig creature was trying to do; whereas it was simply a move of a igher intelligence to guide it to something more beneficial than the nd of its chosen path. So oftentimes God intervenes and intercepts our advance on the way that seemeth right to us in order that he may direct us to the heavenly manna for which he knows our souls are hungry.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God can change your direction in life, if you but trust in Him. He will lead you in the right path.

FRIDAY, JULY 14

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 31:31

LITTLE THINGS

Big moments seldom come. Great deeds are rare. Most of the elements that go into the making of a human life are in themselves infinitesimal and of small consequence. The unmediated word, the spontaneous action, the glance and the smile that we think nothing of, are the strands of which a life is woven. Our character is determined by the total effect of all these small things upon us. Life is mostly chores, and the one who conducts himself faithfully when he thinks no one is observing is the one whose life will total something worth while. Let us be faithful, then, in small responsibilities. Let us seize the small opportunities. If we take care of the little things in life. the great things will take care of themselves.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Why worry over the little things in life? Let God take care of them. He cares for you.

SATURDAY, JULY 15

Scripture Reading—Galatians 6:9

LIFE AN ECHO

A little boy once went to his mother and said, "Mother, there is a boy out there in the woods and he is mocking me. I said, 'Hello' and he said 'Hello.' I said 'Who are you?' and he said 'Who are you?' I said 'What is your name?' and he said 'What is your name?' I was mad and jumped over the fence and went into the woods to find him, but he wasn't anywhere. I said 'I'll punch your head,' and he said he would punch mine."

The lad's mother said to him, "That is only the echo, my boy. If you had said 'I love you,' it would have said that after you."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it funny how your voice will sometimes echo? God provided it that way.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

Editor's Note: Due to our policy of printing only 50 issues of "The Free Will Baptist" each year, there will be no "Baptist" for next week and thus no Family Devotions. Please use other inspirational readings to continue your family devotions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page 9)

How can God be expected to continue to bless America, if more and more no one wants to be aroused from pleasure and play to take seriously the threats of moral decay and sin? Continued indifference will put the devil in the saddle.

They Don't Know—Some years ago, a dog was trapped under some fallen material. Everyone wanted to help the dog, but no one knew who the owner of the dog was. Each time anyone would approach the dog to help, he would snap and snarl until the person withdrew. He didn't know that they wanted to help him. What about those people who get angry every time anyone from the church calls on them and tries to point them to Jesus Christ? They are ignorant!

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

Coming Events . . .

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month

July 9—Homecoming and Annual Alumni Meeting, Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

July 10—Revision Committee of Statement of Faith and Discipline of Original Free Will Baptists will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina at 10 a. m.

July 17-20—Ministers' Conference, Cragmont Assembly

July 30—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention

July 30—Mount Olive Sunday in Local Churches

July 30—Central Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

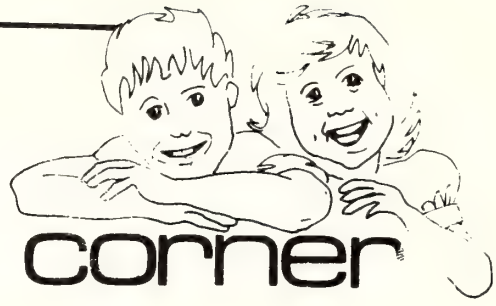
August 4, 5—Summer Orientation, Mount Olive College

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Larry Joyner wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral work. His address is, the Rev. Larry Joyner, Route 1, Box 52, Rockingham, North Carolina 28379.

July is

Christian Education Month.



story corner

RUTH, THE FAITHFUL

EVERYONE loves a pretty girl, especially if she is as kind and good as she is pretty. Our story today is about a girl who is very kind and good. Her name is Ruth.

Ruth lived in the land of Moab; she had fallen in love and married a Jew, Mahlon. His family had moved to her land because there was a famine in the land of Judah. There was not enough food for the people, and the plants would not grow. His father was named Elimelech and his mother was Naomi. He had a brother, Chilion.

When the time came for them to marry, Mahlon and Chilion married two of the girls in the country where they now lived. Ruth and Orphah were the names of the girls.

They were very happy for a time, but the misfortune seemed to happen quickly to the family. The father, Elimelech, and the two boys died.

Naomi, the mother, decided to return to the land of Judah where she had first lived. When she decided to go, she told the wives of her two dead sons, "You are young; go back to the home of your fathers; some young men will want you for their wives. There is no need for you to stay with me. I am going back to my own country. I pray that the Lord will be kind to you as you have been kind to me."

The girls did not want to leave her, but she persuaded and Orphah kissed her and left to go to the home of her father.

Naomi turned to Ruth, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people. You go ahead and do the same, so that I might leave for my homeland. I hear that the Lord has been good to the people in Judah, and the famine there is over."

Ruth put her arms around her mother-in-law and said, "Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: Where thou diest, I will die, and there shall I be buried: the Lord do so to me and more also, if anything but death part thee and me."

Naomi saw that nothing would make Ruth change her mind, and she was glad. It would have been lonely on the trip back to Judah; and after she got there, she would have had no one to live with her.

So Ruth and her mother-in-law went back into the land of Judah. When they got there, they had a hard time finding enough to eat. They were only two women in a land where men owned the land.

They were very poor and did not have money enough to buy food. Ruth was out walking and trying to find a way to get food for herself and Naomi when she stopped to watch the reapers in a field.

To herself she said, "They are wasting so much. There is much dropping behind them as they gather. It is enough to feed the two of us. I wonder if it will be all right for me to go and pic up what they are leaving?"

She went into the field and starte gathering the grain that was left by th reapers.

Boaz, the owner of the field, wa looking over the work of his reapers an happened to see Ruth. He said to th overseer of his fields, "Who is the gi that gathers after you?"

"It is the Moabite that came back wit Naomi."

Ruth, seeing them, asked permissio to gather. Boaz gave her permission, an she continued to gather. He told her als to come in at lunch and eat with the res of the women in his house.

After she was gone, he turned to th overseer, "Be sure that enough is lef behind for her. See that no harm comes to her."

Day after day, Ruth gathered grain i the fields of Boaz.

He watched her and found that he was falling in love with her.

She told Naomi who owned the fields where she was getting so much grain. "Boaz, my daughter, is our kinsman. Go to him and tell him who you are."

Ruth did, and Boaz told her he had found out how wonderful and kind she had been to Naomi who was getting too old to care for herself. "Only a person who was very good would have done these things. You are young. You could have stayed in your country and found another husband to take care of you. But instead, you came to a strange land, with an old woman, just because you knew that she needed someone to take care of her."

Boaz loved Ruth more and more each time they met. He made the necessary arrangements and then asked Ruth to

arry him. Naomi approved of the match d Ruth and Boaz were married.

Now, instead of having to gather the ain that was left by the reapers, Ruth as the wife of a wealthy man. Naomi ed with them.

Some time after they were married, uth and Boaz had a baby. They named m Obed. Naomi, a happy grand- other, spent the rest of her life caring r and playing with the grandchild she ad wanted.

This child, Obed, was to be the randfather of the great king, avid.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

CRAGMONT

CRAGMONT NEWS

Cragmont is now open and in full wing. We have already served about 50 people since our opening on May 15. here have been some good services and nany have been brought closer to God.

Our workers have arrived and are busy utting to use their talents for the Lord. Our young men are: George Stancell from Weldon, and Eddie Skinner from Wilson. Our young ladies are: Melody Moore from Farmville, Wanda Sweat from Roanoke Rapids, Monty and Anne Wiggs from Kinston, Barbara Francis from Fayetteville, and Renee Ryan from Greenville. We were also assisted for a short time by John Martin from Mount Olive, Lois Venable from Pink Hill, and Debbie Parrish from Belhaven. We appreciate each one of our workers and their efforts.

Many of you are wondering about the construction of the new main building. Much to our dismay, it has not begun yet. There are several papers that have to be filled out for the government concerning the status of the camp. As of last week after a meeting with the lawyers, there is only a short time to go before the "go-ahead" can be given for the construction to begin. We, as managers, are very disappointed that construction has not yet begun, but there is nothing **we** can do to speed up the process of the law. We just have to keep praying that God's will be done in this project. We are very concerned about the support we may be losing because of the delay in construction. We hope that you will reconsider before withdrawing any financial support. Instead pray for us and for the good Christian work that is still going on at Cragmont.

CRAGMONT BULLETIN!

When are we going to get the new building at Cragmont? This is a question that we hear asked very often.

As the president of the Cragmont Board of Directors, this writer will try to answer that question for you.

We will have to borrow in excess of $250,000 to build the new building and this is the first time that we have had to borrow that much money. There are many legal matters that have to be taken care of and much legal work done to protect the borrower and the lender. When all of this work is completed then the building will be started.

The money has been coming in and Cragmont is in good condition, because so many of our people want this new building there.

Many repairs have had to be made in readiness for the building—new lines for sewage and water, the tearing down of the old building. All of these things have cost a lot of money but our people have responded with adequate funds to meet the needs.

The Assembly grounds and buildings are in excellent repair and the Skinners are doing an excellent job as managers.

Continue to pray for Cragmont and continue to send in your support.

Willis Wilson, President
Cragmont Board of Directors

WE MAY PASS THIS WAY

by Mrs. Hersel Bowen

It was a starry-moonlit night. The chill in the November air told you to hurry inside. This was the wedding night of a young teenage girl and her sweetheart. The joy and the expectation of a lovely life seemed to be in store for them, a farm boy and a girl that knew nothing about farming were married. They were entertained by a loving family and friends until 10. Yes, boys and girls, 10 was night-night time in that day.

Farming was slow in November. The girl really thought she had it made—not much to do this time of the year on the farm. She learned about the work on a farm later. There were cows, hogs, and mules. The husband seemed to be able to talk their language. He could stand for hours just talking and petting them. As the years went by, the girl still is a little afraid of anything with four legs, but for her husband just walking over the farmland planning the next year's crop was just about the happiest moment of his life. If anyone ever loved animals and farm work, the husband did.

I can remember the great delight as the beautiful crops grew, because the story is about me and my husband. When a wonderful rain came, he'd stand outside. He seemed to hear the crop's saying thank you, Lord, for the drink of water.

God has told us in His Word that we should work for our daily bread, and there is no doubt about my husband

(Continued on Page 16)

WE MAY PASS THIS WAY

(Continued from Page 15)

earning all the bread he needed. Work to him was his pleasure. Anything growing seemed to be a part of his life. God gave him strength and renewed strength many times over. We could hear him chatting many times with the cat or dog. I think if the animals could talk they'd tell us a lot of his thoughts.

The crops are beautiful this year. The green trees sway gently in the breeze. Under one of these trees sits a lonely old man. A stroke came to him in the wee hours of one morning nearly two years ago.

The cows and hogs are sold. No longer can he stand just to watch them chew, or play with the little greedy pigs or no longer can he walk over the farmland.

He now looks quickly as we ride by them. We are getting older every day so we are to take heed. God has been good to all of us. He doesn't forget the old and lonely in this world; just a hello, a card, or a short visit from you will do, but most of all your prayers will help.

We too may pass this way one day. May our work not be our whole life. Let's let God share in all we do or say.

"It takes a lot of patience and God to build a life.
It takes a lot of courage to meet the stress and strife.
It takes a lot of loving to make the wrong come right.
It takes a lot of patience and God to build a life."

—Anonymous

May God's hand rest upon all the dear old folks. Let them know in some way that we love them. It takes babies, teenagers, young adults and the old to make this world complete. This is God's way, I believe, of saying we need eac other.

With Alfred Lord Tennyson, say—"Cast all your cares on God, tha anchor holds."

Editorial

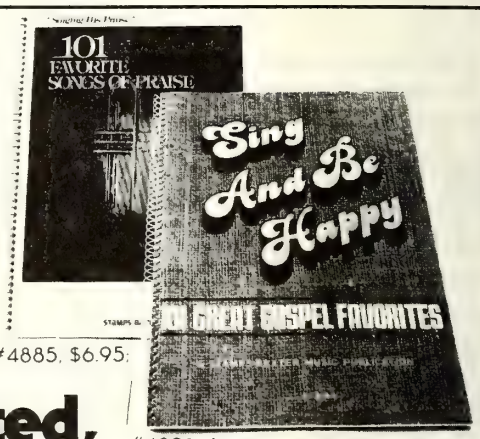
(Continued from Page 2)

apply our *best efforts* (despite what those efforts seem to others), the Lord requires no more. A song sung off key, if it is rendered from the heart and is representative of our best, reaches the ears of God as the most beautiful ever sung.

So, we should not despair if we are lacking in the ability to come out on top. We should console ourselves, as we suggested earlier, that second place is really an honorable position. We can look to the top—that epitome of achievement—and tell ourselves, "I helped him reach his greatest potential. If I were not *second*, he could not be *first*."

And Christ said something on one occasion which should offer even greater encouragement. He indicated that the "*last shall be first.*" This was a lesson on humility, a virtue all of us need more of. While there is nothing wrong with being first (and wanting to be), there is something to be said about being second—and even last!

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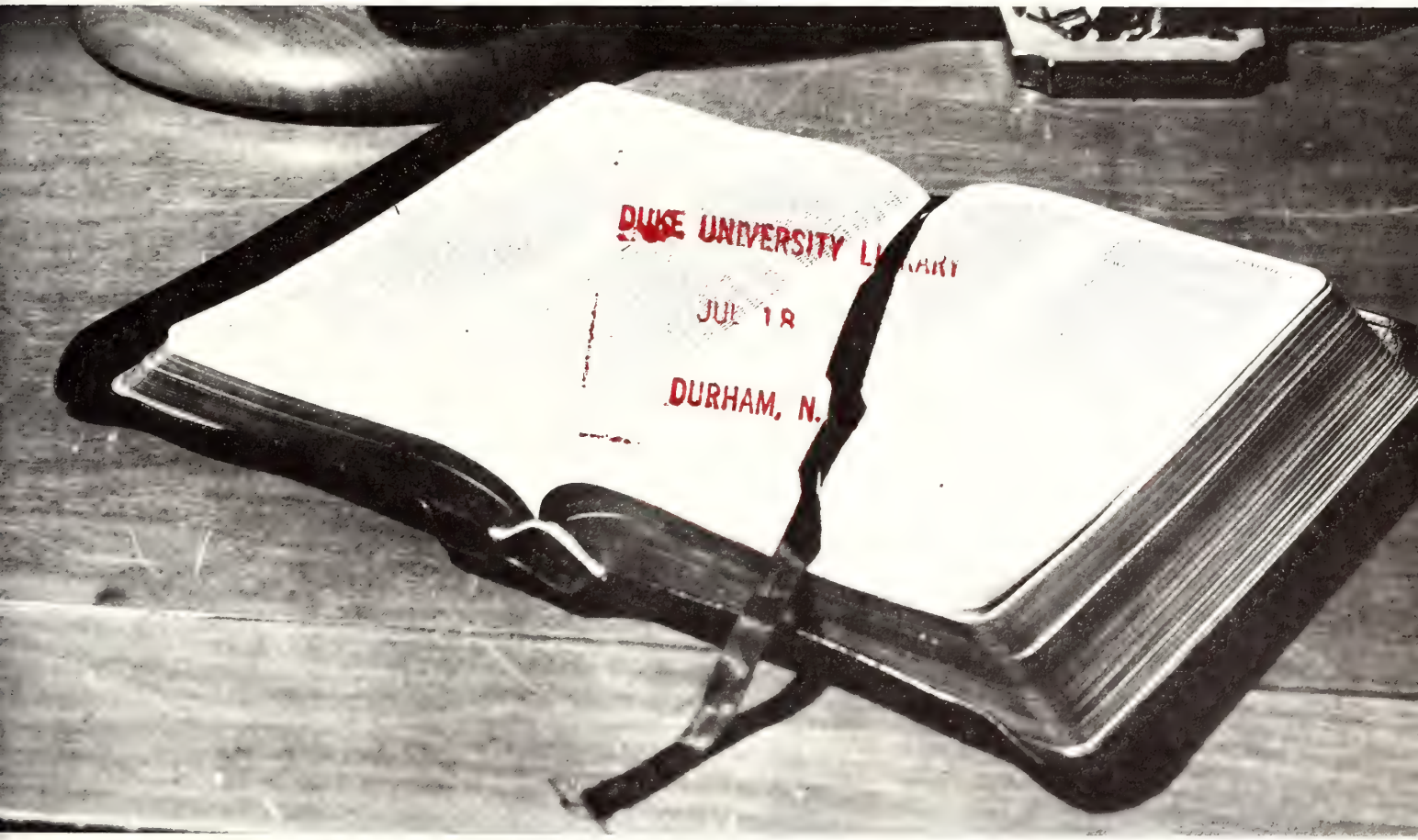
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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

JULY: CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MONTH



The person who has a burning desire for education and admits his hunger for knowledge has the necessary price.

Editorial . . .

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JULY 19, 1978

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EDUCATION: DISCIPLINE, INSTRUCTION, OR BOTH?
(July: Christian Education Month)

There was a time when the only education accessible to most families was of the homespun variety. Of course, some fortunate families during the early 1800s had some of the Walter Scott novels, a speller or two, and the Bible. In many cases, these were the *only* educational tools available aside from parental teaching and guidance.

It is fair to say that the majority of persons, therefore, had a limited education and little incentive was provided to further their scope of learning. To be able to write one's name, to cipher, to read a portion of the Scriptures, to communicate a few experiences via letters were considered quite adequate; and those so fortunate to be able to perform beyond what are now described as "survival skills" were looked upon with great respect and awe.

Education itself is awe-inspiring. It unlocks the doors to opportunities, to understanding; it dispels fear, ignorance, and prejudice—if employed rightly. If pursued diligently, it can provide an unlimited means of reaching goals. Achievement will then be the reward.

Education is not necessarily restricted to the public school or college classroom (though these are good places to obtain it). Much of one's education is self-acquired through personal experience, trial-and-error, the "try-and-try-again-until-you-succeed" method. It is suggested that knowledge which is secured through the "school of hard knocks" is longer remembered than that learned through professorial instruction.

We would certainly not de-emphasize the importance of academic training, that course of study available through the university systems, both Christian and secular. For one to be able to function well in the world, to react and interact with his fellows and to be able to adjust to changing situations, to cope with the unfamiliar, and to keep pace with accelerating patterns of living, he *must* have an education. (We need to acknowledge here that an education and a degree are not synonymous. Degrees can be awarded, but they do not guarantee education.)

More and more there is the need for one to acquaint himself with the awesome responsibility of citizenship. As important, if not more so, is the responsibility of social interaction, the interpersonal relationships without which one cannot live with his fellows.

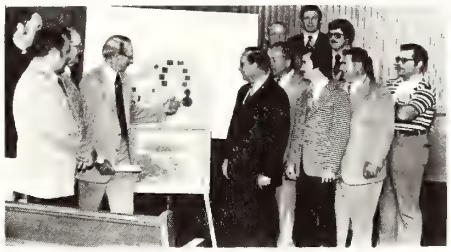
In this connection, we speak to the importance of *Christian education*, that education which instructs one how to get along with his neighbor, how to edify, how to worship, how to praise, how to live "as it would please God." Christian education, however, cannot tear down all barriers of ignorance; it cannot provide a cure-all; it cannot make all things right. Why? Because all people will not take the precepts of the Word to heart and apply them to daily living, nor will they exercise godliness in all situations—good or bad.

John Ruskin once stated that "Education does not mean teaching people what they do not know. It means teaching them to behave as they do not behave. . . . It is a painful, continual, and difficult work to be done by kindness, by watching, by precept, and by praise, but above all, by example." It can then be expanded to mean developing the mind, not just filling the memory bank.

The Apostle Paul directed Timothy: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." And to support this thesis with a modern observation, it can be said that the person who has a burning desire for education and admits his hunger for knowledge *has the necessary price!*

Is not education—*true* education—both discipline *and* instruction?

THE FOUR-YEAR QUESTION FOR MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



Some of the Free Will Baptist Pastors attending the meeting on the four-year status of Mount Olive College are shown examining the intended lay-out of new buildings for the Mount Olive College campus.

THE North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists passed a resolution last year at the 1977 State Convention calling for the Mount Olive Board of Trustees "to work aggressively toward making Mount Olive College a four-year institution."

By becoming a four-year institution Mount Olive could provide a better and more comprehensive educational service for the Free Will Baptist Church; thus, fulfilling the mission of providing educational services for the Free Will Baptist denomination.

It is advantageous for Mount Olive in terms of enrollment. The College has been at a plateau in enrollment for the past ten years with 300-350 students.

Many students desire to go directly to a senior college in order to avoid the "transfer experience." And, an enrollment between 650-800 students is necessary for viable educational and fiscal reasons.

A Review of Requirements

To place a proper perspective on this question, however, it is necessary to review the requirements to achieve this goal.

Mount Olive College is currently fully meeting the requirements for accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as a church-related junior college.

Any considerations relative to senior-college status must be consistent with the policies and standards of the Southern Association. An accredited junior college is far more preferable than an unaccredited senior college, for without accreditation it would be difficult to attract qualified students, a competent faculty and adequate financial resources. Accreditation is not forced on us but it is necessary for survival in today's educational world.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools lists definite standards by which a four-year college must comply to be accredited.

Standard One, "Purpose" states: "Each institution should clearly define its purpose and should incorporate this definition into a statement which is a pronouncement of its role in the educational world. The institution's integrity is measured not only in terms of its stated purpose, but also in terms of its conscientious endeavor to fulfill this purpose.

All appropriate publications should reflect accurately the institution's current statement of purpose. All institutional programs, including the programs outlined in the official publications, should be designed to achieve the stated purpose. **The faculty, financial resources, physical plant, and educational program should be adequate and appropriate to meet the stated purpose of the institution.**"

In this article, let us consider some of the basic requirements Mount Olive College must meet in order to make the transition to become a four-year baccalaureate degree granting college.

Physical Plant

Twenty-five years ago, in the fall of 1953, with no funds on hand, the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists authorized the purchase of an abandoned elementary school building in the town of Mount Olive as the home for the junior college it had chartered two years earlier. The building was renovated and in the fall of 1954 the College offered its first collegiate level program to twenty-two students.

Today, the College is operating on a new 110-acre campus where five modern buildings have been constructed and put in use since 1965:

Henderson Building (Academic and Administrative functions);

Moye Library (with approximately 28,000 volumes);

Hart, Griffin, East Halls for Women (capacity for 130 students);

Grantham Hall for Men (capacity for 126 students); and Rodgers Chapel.

Turn the Page

These buildings along with their equipment and furnishings and the campus site itself, represent an investment of approximately $4 million, but it is still necessary for students to commute to the old downtown campus for meals, to transact their affairs with the business office, to see the College nurse, to purchase books and supplies, to take classes in music and art, and to attend programs and assemblies in the auditorium.

In order to consolidate all operations on one campus and to provide the facilities required for a four-year college, three more buildings are necessary:

College Hall (an athletic and physical health building—which will also serve as a convention center);

College Union (for food services, counseling and student activities);

Fine Arts Building (Music, Art, and Drama)

The estimated cost of these buildings, at today's prices, is $5.5 million, but with continued inflation the cost will doubtless be much higher. The first of these buildings will be College Hall, for which architectural drawings and specifications are expected to be ready this fall. The architect estimated the cost of this building to be $1.5 million. Gifts and pledges are now being sought and **contracts will be awarded as soon as adequate funding is available.**

Preliminary architectural work is also underway on the College union and the Fine Arts building and construction on these will follow as soon as funds can be obtained.

The Faculty

The true educational strength of any college is in its faculty, and as a **junior** college Mount Olive is most fortunate in this respect. We meet all standards for accreditation as a two-year college but to become a senior college we would need as many as ten professors with an earned doctor's degree. At present we have one full-time professor who meets this requirement in addition to our Dean and Dean of Students.

The accreditation requirements for senior college status reads, "Approximately fifty percent of the teaching faculty in humanities, social sciences and natural sciences should possess educational preparation equivalent to one year of advanced study in the teaching field beyond the master's degree. In the individual disciplines in the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences, in which a major concentration of courses is offered, approximately one-quarter of the faculty should hold the earned doctorate in that discipline.

Mount Olive College has many faculty members with the ability and desire to do additional graduate work including doctoral studies but we need funds to provide them with leaves of absences for this purpose.

Financial Resources

Everything we do on a college campus has to be translated into a budget: What will it cost and from where will the money come? Standard Four of the Southern Association and Colleges and Schools reads in part:

"Financial Resources. Private and church-related institutions should have a history of diversity of sources of income in order to assure stability. Each institution should give evidence of the cultivation and utilization of sources of income so that the combination is adequate to its needs."

There are three kinds of funds Mount Olive College needs:

1. **Educational Program**. This is the operating budget of the College which totalled $1,812,000 for the 1977-78 fiscal year. To meet this budget, income was scheduled as follows:

$1,169,000—Student Related Income (Tuition, Rooms, Board, Fees, Student-Aid grants)
$ 528,000—Voluntary Gift Support (Churches, Alumni, and Friends)
$ 30,000—Endowment
$ 85,000—Miscellaneous Operations (Bookstore sales, Eagle Nest rentals, Farm income, Refunds, and related sources)

2. **Capital Funds.** (For new buildings, equipment and land) Our immediate goal is $1.5 million for College Hall and our long-range goal is an additional $4 million for a College union and a Fine Arts building.

3. **Endowment.** (An endowment is fixed investments from which the earnings come to the College for its general purposes.)

"Endowments are highly important to non-tax supported institutions. Although income from endowment is subject to change from fluctuations in the economy, an institution having available income from this source strengthens the base of stability" (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools).

To give Mount Olive College financial stability and an assured income adequate to support a four-year program, we should seek at least $5 million in endowment. An endowment of $5 million invested at 8 percent interest would earn $400,000 annually and this income along with voluntary annual support would give the College a firm financial foundation and would provide the funds needed for scholarships and a quality program of education.

Summary

While there are other requirements for meeting the standards to become a four-year College, facilities, faculty, and finances are the primary ones to which we must immediately address ourselves.

Free Will Baptists have never had a fully accredited senior college; we need one and God has given us the resources to have one. Those of us who work at Mount Olive College are dedicated to providing the leadership to achieve this goal if our people truly want a four-year college and will provide the necessary support.

(Future articles will report what the College is doing to strengthen its present operations and to prepare for the possibility of four-year status.—W. B. Raper, President).

Auxiliaries IN Action

NORTH CAROLINA WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The fifty-first annual session of the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention convened with Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Albemarle District, on May 4, 1978. The theme for the day was "Be thou an example" and the Scripture ". . . be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12).

The opening hymn was "Breathe On Me." The Rev. Fred Baker gave the invocation.

Using as her subject, "Be Thou An Example in Devotions," Mrs. Edna Fowler of the Cape Fear District brought the morning devotions.

Mrs. Frank Daw, President of the Albemarle District, gave a most cordial welcome to the Free Union church and the district, Mrs. Stephen Coleman, Western District, responded.

Mrs. Rachel Duncan, president of the Convention, challenged the group to be an example in all things, being willing to deny ourselves and to follow Him; for those who take the yoke of Christ will be able to do anything that God asks. Officers, delegates, ministers, and denominational enterprises were recognized.

Youth Chairman, Mrs. Elizabeth Hansley, gave an encouraging report on the work of our youth.

On behalf of the convention, Mrs. Hansley presented the 1978 Life Membership Award to Mrs. Minnie H. Chandler, wife of the Rev. A. B. Chandler and currently Program-Prayer Chairman of the Convention.

Following brief reports from representatives of the various denominational enterprises, the morning worship was opened with the hymn, "Take Time To Be Holy." The offering was taken and prayer by the Rev. C. L. Patrick.

Special music was rendered by the New Day Spirituals of the Free Union church.

Mrs. Duncan introduced Mrs. Alice Barrow who brought the convention message which was based on the Scripture for the day. Mrs. Barrow began her message by leading the congregation in singing the chorus, "I Love Him."

A special prayer and anointing service was conducted for Mrs. Lydia Cooper in the afternoon. The Rev. Francis Garner, assisted by other ministers in attendance led this service.

Mrs. Sunie Hansley and Mrs. Minnie Hines were presented corsages by the Albemarle District since they were the oldest members in attendance.

A Book of Remembrance for Cragmont Assembly was presented to the convention by Mrs. Minnie Chandler on behalf of her sister, Mrs. Beulah Hansley Cox, in memory of the late Frances Hansley Rublein, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. David C. Hansley. All memorial gifts will be recorded in this book.

Mrs. Gary Bailey presented the memorial tribute to our deceased members and the Rev. Francis Garner sang "God Understands."

Other special music was rendered by the daughters of the Rev. Garner.

Mrs. Alma Dale installed the officers for the next two years. The Convention closed by the congregation singing "Amazing Grace."

All reports given reflected progress and will be found in the minutes of the Convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth L. Warrick, Corresponding Secretary

RACHEL DUNCAN SPEAKER FOR EASTWOOD CHURCH WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Mrs. Rachel Duncan was the speaker for the Woman's Auxiliary of Eastwood Free Will Baptist Church in Fayetteville on June 11, 1978. Mrs. Duncan's presentation was on the manual of the Woman's Auxiliary. It was both enlightening and inspiring. The Victory Mission Auxiliary was represented and the overall attendance was very good.

Refreshments were served afterwards in the fellowship hall with attractively decorated table of the auxiliary colors. Wonderful Christian fellowship was shared by all during this time. This event was planned and set up by Mrs. Ethel Hobgood, Eastwood's study course chairman.

ATTENTION MINISTERS OF WESTERN CONFERENCE

The Ministers' Fellowship of the Western Conference is having its annual summer fellowship supper on Tuesday, July 25, 7:30 p. m. at Bill's Barbecue in Wilson. All ministers and their wives are cordially invited. Along with good food and fellowship, a spiritual program is planned.

ATTENTION!

The Ministerial Examining Board of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will meet at 9 a. m., Monday, July 24, at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Kinston. All persons wishing to meet with the examining board are invited to do so at this time.

Bruce Dudley,
Secretary

WHY PREACHERS CRACK UP

Submitted by DeWayne Eakes

Within the last 25 years there has been an alarming number of pastors who are entering mental hospitals and retreat centers not as pastors but as patients. Suicides, divorces, resignations, and even drug abuse is on the rise among clergymen. But the number one problem among American clergymen is mental health. In all denominations emotional breakdowns are in ever-increasing numbers.

Many ministers crack up, but the public almost never hears about it. The reason is that we have the image of the "man of God" being a superman who is "hedged" in by God so that his mind is at perfect rest. It is felt by many that the preacher should "heal himself."

Ministers today are not weaker or lacking in faith, in theological training, in preaching ability, and in genuine commitment. This generation is second to none.

There are many reasons for the increasing number of "crack ups" among clergymen, but the principal reason is that of the minister's role as conceived by the members of the church and fostered on the minister even though many of the roles are impossible to carry out. So long as lay people keep demanding more of their ministers than they can deliver, ministers are going to continue to break down regardless of their mental and emotional state at the beginning of their pastorates.

The preachers who best impress new congregations are the ones who give the impression that they can fulfill all of the needs of every group in the church and wear every hat assigned are usually the ones who suffer the breakdowns. Preachers who throw themselves into the impossible tasks committed to them by the congregation, believing that by hard work and long hours the job can be done, are courting breakdowns.

The attitude of church members toward ministers who crack up is quite surprising. Although concerned about the minister's health, they are embarrassed when a breakdown occurs. Actually they don't have the slightest idea why it occurred. Being unaware of the causes, they are unwilling and unable to assume responsibility for it. Therefore they call another preacher, saddle him with the same workload, and hope that he is more mentally and morally alert than the "last" preacher they had. So the problem goes on.

Dr. Samuel Blizzard, a sociologist, surveyed 690 American Protestant ministers and turned up two important points: the role that lay people expect of their ministers and the role that ministers expect of themselves. Dr. Blizzard writes: "The new American culture has resulted in a change in what people expect of the minister. In the past the parish clergyman performed his function as a general practitioner. Now he is expected to be a specialist." And he is expected to be a specialist not in one or two but in six or seven separate roles: preacher, administrator, organizer, pastor, priest, and teacher.

A Durham, North Carolina, minister prepared a questionnaire for his congregation asking them to tell him how much time they thought he should give each week to each of his following jobs: studying and preparing his sermons, personal counseling, board meetings, budget planning, building programs, calling on members of the congregation, and several community activities. The average work week indicated by answers on the questionnaire totalled 82 hours. This did not include funerals, weddings, and jail visits.

The pastor of a 1,000 member middle class church was asked to give a rundown on any one of his typical days, except Sunday which is always such a grueling day for the clergy that there is nothing typical or "normal" about it. The following is the description: "I arose at 6:30, my usual hour. Had morning devotions and breakfast with m wife and arrived at the church at 8. I had planned two hours of intensive study in preparation of two sermons for Sunday and five early morning radio talks for next week. Thus far during the week I had been unable to give any time to these speaking commitments, so I needed those two hours. However, when I arrived at the church my secretary reminded me that I had agreed to write a brief article for the Sunday church bulletin which was due to go to press at noon that day. She also reminded me that I was to make three important phone calls, one of which involved a twenty-minute conversation with the chairman of our finance committee.

"After writing the promised article and making the necessary telephone calls, I began the preparation for next week's radio talks. At 10 a.m. I was scheduled to attend the meeting of the program committee of the ministerial association, of which I am chairman. I had exactly 30 minutes. Just as I got started, my secretary informed me that the mother of the president of the women's society had passed away and that I was wanted at once. I went to the home of my member who lived five miles from the church. I offered a prayer, spoke words of comfort and reassurance to the bereaved, and helped make plans for the funeral. I will conduct the funeral Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. I had promised my wife and children we would go on a picnic Saturday afternoon, but as you know, death takes precedence over everything else that is on a minister's schedule.

"I missed the meeting of the program committee of the ministerial association, but at 12:30 I attended a luncheon meeting of the women's auxiliary, after which I spoke briefly to a mission study class.

"At 2 I performed a wedding ceremony. It was a small, informal wedding held in my study. I regret that I did not have time to counsel with the young couple before the wedding. I keep telling myself that a minister should give more time to the young people whose wedding ceremony he performs. Perhaps I will get myself better organized in the future and be able to do this.

"At 3 p. m. I began the rounds of the hospitals. The hospitals are in different sections of the city, so it takes considerable time to get from one to another. However, I made the rounds and visited all of the patients before 6 p. m. I did not get home for dinner but went from the hospital directly to church. A supper meeting of the men's Bible class was

being held and I had been requested to give invocation. The class meeting was over at 7:30. At 8 an important meeting of the Every Member Canvas Committee was held. I was on hand to make suggestions and boost the committee's morale. The meeting did not last long. I was home at 9:30 p. m."

Thus the minister described simply and without a trace of self-pity a thirteen and a half hour workday. If he had chosen Wednesday or any other day of the week, the organizational meetings and emergency calls would have varied, but the demands on his time and energy would have been the same.

To the layman who thinks his minister works hard on Sundays but does not have much to do during the rest of the week, such a schedule may come as a surprise, but it would not surprise any conscientious minister in the country. For this is the way of life that church congregations have decreed for the clergy who serve them.

At no time in our nation's history has spiritual guidance been so urgently needed and so sincerely desired by the masses of people. The health of our ministers, our spiritual leaders, is of vital concern to us all. What can be done to protect them from the tremendous strain imposed on them?

Let no one be foolish enough to give a quick and easy reply. The complications are many and the roots are deep. The tensions between congregations and their ministers, arising out of today's impossible ministerial role, are not going to be resolved without honest appraisal on the part of the clergy and cooperative effort on the part of the lay people.

—Le Mar Clark, United Christian Church, Detroit Michigan.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mrs. A. B. Chandler, treasurer of Cragmont Assembly, Inc., has changed from P. O. Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina to Route 1, Sims, North Carolina 27880.

Cragmont Bulletin

The Mountaintop Experience

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, NC

CRAGMONT TRIP



Pleasant Hill Group

On Friday afternoon, June 7, thirty-one excited people boarded a chartered bus at the Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville. About 6 p. m. they left the church grounds, and were Cragmont bound.

After an interesting ride and lots of good fellowship, they arrived at Cragmont around midnight and were greeted by the Rev. Doug Skinner and the pastor, the Rev. Larry Melton, who, along with his family, had arrived earlier that day.

On Saturday they explored Asheville Mall and toured the Biltmore Estate. But the greatest fun came back at Cragmont, where volleyball, horseshoe pitching, hiking, and exploring were enjoyed by all ages. Most enjoyed by the young was a climb to the top of the mountain. Some tried this several times.

On Saturday evening there was a very inspirational vesper service outside the cafeteria.

After church services in the chapel and another delicious meal in the cafeteria, they reluctantly boarded the bus for the trip home Sunday afternoon. They left spiritually uplifted and convinced that Cragmont is a great camp for the young people and a great place for all Free Will Baptists to relax and be drawn closer to God.

CHRISTIAN CADET CONFERENCE

The Christian Cadet Conference sponsored by the State League Convention was held at Cragmont Assembly June 26—July 1. Everyone present felt that the Conference was a great success. We believe there are two main reasons for this success.

First and foremost was the moving of the Holy Spirit. God was manifest in all aspects of the work. This was not an overly emotional thing but a real presence of a very real God. Prayer was held by the staff before each worship service and God richly blessed in His answers to those prayers.

The second reason the Conference was a great success was the work of the director of the week. The director was the Rev. Bobby Taylor, pastor of Gum Swamp church and president of the State League Convention. He did a wonderful job as leader for the week's activities.

Every detail was worked out before we arrived at Cragmont. Everything was in perfect order and the staff soon learned just what they were to be responsible for during the Conference. Because of the smoothness of the operation the staff drew many praises for their work. We wish to publically thank Mr. Taylor for doing the real work so that our work just fell into place. He was an excellent director and we enjoyed working with him. To God be the glory!

The Staff,
Ed and Carolyn Rouse
Pam Johnson
Tommy Evans
James Cahoon
Kathy Brickhouse
Kay Parish
Gary Bailey



SUNDAY, JULY 23

Scripture Reading—Psalm 136:1

PRAISE CHANGES THINGS!
TRY IT!

Mrs. Chas. E. Cowman tells of a missionary in dark China who was living a defeated life. Everything seemed to be touched with sadness and although he prayed and prayed for months for victory over depression and discouragement, his life remained the same. He determined to leave his work and go to an interior station and pray till victory came. He reached the place and was entertained in the home of a fellow missionary. On the wall hung a motto with these words, "Try Thanksgiving." The words gripped his heart and he thought within himself, "Have I been praying all this time and not praising?" He stopped and began to praise and was so uplifted that instead of hiding away to pray and agonize for days he immediately returned to his waiting flock to tell them that praise changes things. Wonderful blessing attended this simple testimony and the hands that had bound others were loosened through praise.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we find ourselves praying too hard for things that we can't change? We should stop to praise God for His blessings once in a while.

MONDAY, JULY 24

Scripture Reading—James 5:17

HOW HIGH?

It was time for evening prayers. Buddy's busy day was over, and, with Daddy, he was ready to pray. The usual words were prayed, and the "for Christ's sake, Amen," added; then: "Daddy, how high did we pray? Did God hear us, Daddy?" Daddy was accustomed to the task of trying to answer difficult questions—that rare privilege that daddies have—and tried his best with this one, assuring Buddy that God heard every word; that He always hears everything we say. Soon Buddy slumbered, but Daddy remained awake for a time, thinking about the question of how "high" prayers go. How high we pray is an important thought, because there are things that weigh down our prayers sometimes. Jesus told of several of them—the man, for instance, who, at the altar, remembered something, and had to hasten off to make it right.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should pray every day to Jesus. He cares for His children all the time.

TUESDAY, JULY 25

Scripture Reading—Mark 2:2

RESIGNED AND RE-SIGNED

Dr. Thomas T. Villers says, "I once heard John Robertson speak. He told us that a year before he had felt he must leave the ministry. He said, 'I struggled all night in prayer with God about the matter, and about the time the eastern light began to stream in the windows, I said "O God, here is my commission: I resign." But God, in His infinite mercy, said to me, "My son, you need not resign your commission. I will re-sign your commission."And ever since then I have been preaching under a re-signed commission.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

Are we under a resigned commission to carry on the work of God? We should always work for Him.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

Scripture Reading—Mark 6:12

WHOM HE SAW

A Christian man urged his unsaved friend to go to hear a preacher whom he liked very much. The friend complied with this request. Afterward the Christian asked, "Well, what did you think of him?" "I did not think anything of him," was the reply. The Christian was disappointed until the friend added: "I was so busy thinking of the Christ whom he preached that I did not have time to think of the preacher. And now his Saviour is my Saviour, too."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we go to church to hear the preacher or the Word of God? Well, we should hear the Word of God.

THURSDAY, JULY 27

Scripture Reading—Genesis 3:8

HIS FATHER'S HAND

A minister says: "I well remember the time when my child, a laddie of three years, had to undergo an operation to save him from becoming totally blind. I was accorded the privilege of being in the room during the operation. My dear child was laid on the operating table. He was extremely nervous, and his body was quivering very much. He called to me: 'Father! Father! Will you stand beside me? Will you hold my hand?' As I took his hand the quivering ceased, the nervousness abated, 'Father,' he said, 'I am not afraid now.' and then turning to the doctor, he said, 'Doctor, you may go on now, I am not afraid!' " So the handclasp of our Heavenly Father begets confidence and strength. We are not afraid when we feel His love-grip.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should always have the hand of the Father to guide us along life's pathway. He loves each of you.

FRIDAY, JULY 28

Scripture Reading—Matthew 10:9

"GOD WILL PROVIDE!"

Back in the depression days of the early '30s, my husband pastored a small country church. We then had three little children. Many times our weekly income was less than $10. One day, we found ourselves out of bread and with only some rancid bacon grease for shortening. I used it, however, in making some hot biscuits and we managed to eat some of them for lunch. Later, as we put the remaining biscuits on the supper

table, our five-year-old daughter prayed very earnestly, "Dear Jesus, help us to eat these biscuits or else send us some better ones. Amen!" Later that evening, the doorbell rang. There, at the door, stood a member of our church who had a bakery route. Before we could tell him our story he began unloading his large bakery basket with all kinds of tempting sweet rolls, buns, biscuits, besides dark and white bread. "You know," he said rather apologetically, "I was tired tonight and seven miles out here in the pouring rain seemed so far. I was tempted to wait until tomorrow evening and bring these bakery things on my way to prayer meeting as I usually do." Then he added, "But I was strongly constrained to come tonight. Hope you can use these things!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it funny how God can answer prayer, especially in our time of need? He seems always to know just when to answer the prayers.

SATURDAY, JULY 29

Scripture Reading—Matthew 11:28

COME UNTO ME. . . .

Heart that is weary because of the way,
Facing the wind and the sting of the spray,
Come unto Me, and I will refresh you.

Heart that has tasted of travail and toil,
Burdened for souls whom the foe would despoil,
Come unto Me, and I will refresh you.

Heart that is frozen—a handful of snow,
Heart that is faded—a sky without glow,
Come unto Me, and I will refresh you.

Heart that is weary, I come unto Me,
Fear not, whatever the trouble may be;
Come unto Me, and I will refresh you.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God said to just come to Him and He will give you rest. He is a just God.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: Please explain Hebrews 12:16, 17. "Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright. For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears." What did Esau actually do? Why could he find no place of repentance? How could he sell his birthright when it was not his to sell?—Charles E. Kermick, Florida.

Answer: The passage in Hebrews encompasses two events: Esau's selling of his inheritance to his brother Jacob for "bread and pottage . . . thus Esau despised his birthright" (Genesis 25:34), and his great remorse when he learned that Jacob had defrauded him of their father Isaac's blessing (Genesis 27:1-40). As the elder son, the first-born of Isaac and Rebekah's twins, Esau was entitled to both birthright and blessing. According to **The Scofield Reference Bible** (Page 38n), "Esau stands for the mere man of the earth . . . . in many respects a nobler man, naturally, than Jacob, he was destitute of faith and despised the birthright because it was a spiritual thing, of value only as there was faith to apprehend it . . . . This birthright Esau sold for a momentary fleshly gratification. Jacob's conception of the birthright at that time was, doubtless, carnal and inadequate; but his desire for it evidenced true faith." Elsewhere, **The Scofield Reference Bible** (Page 41n) says: "Esau wept because of a lost advantage but 'found no way to change his mind though he sought it carefully with tears' (Hebrews 12:17)—so far may regret or remorse be from true repentance."

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

Coming Events . . .

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month
July 30—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention
July 30—Mount Olive Sunday in Local Churches
July 30—Central Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Work
August 4, 5—Summer Orientation, Mount Olive College
August 7, 8—Minister's Institute, Mount Olive College
August 14-25—The Third Annual Pastor's Conference, Carolina Bible Institute, Pine Level, North Carolina
August 21—Residence Halls Open, Mount Olive College
August 22—Educational Advising, Mount Olive College
August 23—Board of Directors of Children's Home Meeting, 9 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex
August 23—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 11 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex
August 23—Board of Directors of Retirement Homes Meeting, 1 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex
August 23—Registration, Mount Olive College
August 24—Classes Begin, Mount Olive College
August 25, 26—Piedmont Conference
August 27—Convocation, Mount Olive College

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Chaplain, Lt. Col. John B. Narron announces his change of address from 1125 Doyle Avenue, Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina 29404 to 2710 Falcon Avenue, Rome, New York 13440, as he was recently transferred to Griffiss Air Force Base, New York.

The Rev. Owen K. Arthur Jr. announces that his address is now: P. O. Box 445, Bridgeton, North Carolina 28519. He can be reached by phoning 638-5396. He is now pastoring the Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church.

NEWS & NOTES

Sweet Gum Grove Church Observed Graduation Day

Graduation day was observed at Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Stokes, on June 11. There were four graduating seniors in the church this year. They were as follows: Sharon Briley, Ann Clark, Monroe Glisson, and Eddy Whichard.

Services were opened with the song, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus." Scripture was taken from Hebrews 13:7-17. The pastor, the Rev. Frank Brinson delivered a most inspiring message entitled "Following the Rules" after which Mr. Howard Briley, superintendent of the Sunday school presented each graduate with a Bible. Services were closed with the song, "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah."

A Successful Bible School Held At Sweet Gum Grove Church

A most successful Bible school was enjoyed by all who attended, June 12 through June 16 under the direction of Mrs. Frank Brinson, who did a splendid job. The time of the school was 7 p. m. until 9:30 p. m. Sharon Briley was the song leader and Becky Futrell was the music director. The average attendance was in the sixties. The commencement was held the following Sunday night, June 18.

There was a bike-a-thon held to pay for the expenses of the Bible school the oldest participant being Mr. Roy Worthington, 85; and the youngest, Samuel Tripp, seven months. There was raised close to $700 and the fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Fourth Central Union Meets at Saratoga Church

The Fourth Central Union District Meeting will be held at the Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church, Saratoga, on July 30. The scheduled program is as follows:

Morning Session

10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"
—Welcome, Mrs. Martha Pittman
—Response, Judy Moore
11:15—President's Remarks
—Missions Report
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College News
11:30—Special Music, Harrell's Chapel Church
—Sermon, the Rev. Danny Braswell
—Appointment of Committees
12:15—Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:15—Hymn, "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth"
—Devotion, Mr. Ed Walston
—Special Music, Edgewood Church
—Business Period
—Program, Local Church
2:15—Adjournment

Cape Fear Union Meeting Riverside Church

The Cape Fear Union Meeting will be held at the Riverside Free Will Baptist Church, near Goldsboro, on Saturday, July 29, 1978. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, the Rev. David Hill
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, the Rev. Billy Nowell
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. C. M. Coats
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship

The officers are as follows: Moderator, the Rev. J. Walter Stanley; assistant moderator, the Rev. Edward C. Taylor; secretary, Mrs. Joyce Nowell; assistant secretary, Mrs. Frances Phillips; treasurer, H. T. Hinson; and hymn director, Johnnie Woodall.

Bible School Held at Beaverdam Church



Vacation Bible School Group

The Beaverdam Original Free Will Baptist Church of Chadbourn, pastored by the Rev. William Jackie Godwin, held their Bible school beginning on June 12 and ending June 16. The school was directed by Mrs. Howard McPherson and Mrs. Rudie Cartrette. The average attendance for the week was 252. The week's Bible study was based on the theme, "Precious Are His Promises." Other activities included crafts, games, and refreshments. The week concluded on Friday afternoon with a picnic for the parents and students followed by commencement services.

Gospel Singing to be Held Otter's Creek Church

Gospel singing will be held at the Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Edgecombe County, on Saturday, July 22, at 7:30 p. m. The featured singers will be "Gaylon Pope and the Majesties" of Goldsboro. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy some good gospel singing.

Winterville Church YFA Captured National Title

The Winterville Free Will Baptist YFA Bible Bowl team captured the National Title at the General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists at Pleasant Grove church, Pikeville, on June 26. They defeated Beaverdam church, Chadbourn; and Victory Mission church, Hope Mills.

Participating on the winning team were Donald Riberiro, Cindy Branch, Alice Hines as captain, and Connie Wade as alternate. They had previously gained the state title in April, 1978. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Gray are the youth sponsors.

Western District Youth Meets At First Church, Wilson

The Western District Youth Fellowship will meet Saturday, July 22, at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson at 7:30 p. m. Everyone welcome.

Psalm's Quartet at Peace Church

The Psalm's Quartet, will render special music at Peace Free Will Baptist Church at Pinetops, July 23 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the fellowship as well as good singing.

Oak Grove Boys Will Be At Winterville Church



The Oak Grove Boys

The Oak Grove Boys from Elm City, will be in concert at the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, July 30, at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Bobby Futrell, pastor, extends a warm welcome to everyone to attend.

Cathy Sue Edwards Graduates Summa Cum Laude



Cathy Sue Edwards

Cathy Sue Edwards, daughter of Mrs. Irene B. Edwards and the late S. Q. Edwards, of Route 1, Wendell, graduated summa cum laude from Atlantic Christian College on May 12.

Miss Edwards attended Corinth-Holders Elementary School where she was a member of the Junior Beta Club. While attending Smithfield-Selma Senior High, she was inducted into the National Honor Society.

Miss Edwards is a graduate of Mount Olive College where she was selected to be included in the 1976 edition of Who's Who in American Junior Colleges. She was also inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, a national junior college honor fraternity. Other honors she achieved while at Mount Olive were college marshal, Bryan Scholar recipient and appointment to the Academic Affairs Committee. She was also a member of the Miss Mount Olive College court.

After transferring to Atlantic Christian College, Miss Edwards continued to acquire many honors. She served as chief marshal at the 1977 commencement exercises. During her senior year, she was inducted into the Alpha Chi Honor Fraternity. She was also selected for membership in the Pi Gamma Mu Social Science Honor Fraternity.

Having graduated summa cum laude, Miss Edwards received the highest honor that Atlantic Christian College could award its graduates.

Robert's Grove People Still at Work

Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, experienced a wonderful daily vacation Bible school this summer. It started on Monday night, June 12 and continued through June 16, with an average attendance of seventy-six each night.

Then on Sunday night, June 18, at 7 p. m., the church enjoyed a picnic supper, followed by the daily vacation Bible school commencement.

On Sunday morning, June 18, the church also observed "Father's Day." During the worship service, the YFAs honored their fathers. Benjie Bryan read, "A Tribute to Fathers" and Pam Tew read, "What Is a Father?" Then Anthony Tyndall read the name of each father present, and as a father came forth, he was presented a red carnation. Larry Faircloth closed the service by reading, "A Challenge to Fathers."

Mr. James H. Spell was ordained as a deacon during the worship service on Sunday morning, June 25. May God's richest blessings be with James as he begins his work with the other deacons.

MISSIONS

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH HAS ROCK-A-THON

In June of this year, the young people of Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church of the Western Conference under the direction of Mrs. Glenda Hood held a rock-a-thon. The pledges and monies received from the project were to be sent to Home Missions. The sum of $1,328.32 was raised. The rock-a-thon was held on June 2 at 7:30 p. m. through June 3 at 3 p. m. Approximately 15 young people rocked, some all night, for pledges from the people in the church.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For July 30

INSTRUCTING CHURCH LEADERS

Lesson Text: Acts 20:17-21, 25-28, 32-38

Memory Verse: Acts 20:32

I. INTRODUCTION

In Acts we have many types of speeches by Paul. There are messages given in synagogues, addresses given before rabbinic scholars, a discourse before a group of philosophers, and pleas in his own defense before legal authorities. But none of his recorded words are quite as intimate, direct, warm, or tender as those that serve as the basis for our study this day. Paul was speaking to persons with whom he had shared his life for three years. He had not only taught and guided them, but had worked with them and visited them in their homes. To them he had given the oversight of the church that had been established there. It is obvious that he loved these men and that they felt the same way about him. Paul spoke to them of their shared life in Christ. He spoke as we often do to our friends, saying more about his own acts and feelings than he would have if he had been speaking to strangers. We can learn much from this glimpse into Paul's soul. It can leave us sobered, challenged, and deeply moved.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. It seems that Paul's original plan was to go from Ephesus directly to Corinth (2 Corinthians 1:16), but Luke (Acts 20:1, 2) gives the plan that was actually carried out. This agrees with 1 Corinthians 15:5-8. Paul traveled overland from Ephesus to Troas, across the sea to Philippi, through the region of Illyricum (Romans 15:19), and down to Greece (Corinth). This took the better part of a year. Many things troubled Paul during that year, including the fact that Titus was supposed to have met him at Troas but did not (2 Corinthians 2:13; 7:6, 7), and concern for the Corinthian and Galatian churches (2 Corinthians 1:8-15; 11:28).

B. Paul stayed in Corinth for three months (Acts 20:3), writing to the Romans and the Galatians during that time. From Corinth, he intended to sail straight to Palestine, but because of a plot against his life he retraced his steps to Macedonia. The seven men named in Acts 20:4 are delegates of the churches sent to carry the missionary offering that Paul and others had been gathering for the poor at Jerusalem (Romans 15:25-27; 1 Corinthians 16:1-3; 2 Corinthians 8:1—9:15).

C. These men went ahead of Paul and Luke to Troas. Paul and Luke stayed over at Philippi to observe the Passover and subsequent days of unleavened bread. The pronoun "we" indicates that Luke was with Paul. Then they went across the Aegean Sea to Troas to meet the seven men (20:6). The trip took five days because of bad weather; on a former trip from Troas across it had taken only three days (Acts 16:11, 12).

D. This is the first indication in Acts that Christians met on Sunday, the first day of the week, although presumably they did this from the Resurrection of Christ. (Saturday is not the Lord's Day.) The meeting described in Acts 20:7-12 was a Sunday evening service, with preaching that lasted until midnight and fellowship that lasted until the dawn on Monday morning (vv. 7, 11).

E. During this service, a young man named Eutychus fell asleep on a windowsill and fell from the third floor, killing himself (v. 9). Paul went down and stretched himself over the body and told the congregation to stop making such a fuss over the incident (v. 10). The young man was resuscitated, i.e., he died but was revived.

F. Paul then partook of the Lord's Supper (v. 11). His participation thusly does havoc with those who teach a closed communion. Paul was not a member of the church at Troas, yet he partook of their supper. Also, it is ridiculous to assume that Luke and the seven other men who were with Paul were refused the right to partake of the Lord's Supper. This is a church ordinance, but any church has the right and responsibility to allow any Christians to participate with them in the observance of this feast. Surely Paul would have rebuked a church for such preconceived bigotry in disallowing participation.

G. From Corinth, Paul travelled to Assos, the seaport entrance to the Gulf of Adramyttium, which was situated about 30 miles south of Troas by sea and about 28 miles by land. Paul went along, by land, and the ship picked him up at Assos (20:14) and went on to Mitylene, the chief city on the Island of Lesbos. The next day they embarked at Chios, a large island near the mainland.

H. The third day they reached the island of Samos, though they stayed at Trogyllium, which was about a mile across the channel from Samos. The next day the party reached Miletus, which was some 36 miles south of Ephesus. Ephesus was bypassed because Paul was in a hurry to get to Jerusalem and knew a stop there would involve time.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

Something that does not grow stagnates or dies. This is true of plants, ponds, and people. The Dead Sea is an excellent example. Another example is the Christian who has not advanced spiritually since his conversion. He may not remain dead in his trespasses and sins, but he has remained spiritually stagnant. He has not experienced Christian growth. Someone has classified men into four groups:

"He who knows not, and knows not he knows not,
He is a fool; shun him.

He who knows not, and knows he knows not,
He is simple; teach him.
He who knows, and knows not he knows,
He is asleep; waken him.
He who knows; and knows he knows,
He is wise; follow him.''

If you fit into the fourth group, it is because you have sat at the feet of Jesus and received instruction from Him. This assured you that you are saved; there is no doubt about it in your mind. Now you are prepared to help others grow. Are you committed to Christian growth? Are you helping others to grow?—**The Advanced Quarterly** (**F.W.B.**)

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

As the fruit of the vine is nurtured by the vine itself, and the soil in which it grows, so do our lives grow rich and full as we receive the strength of the Vine of God, which is Christ Jesus. If we are bearing good and abundant fruit, it is because we are growing from the virility of the Vine. It is not of ourselves; it is all of Christ and His grace. Rejoice in this and know that there is no greater joy in all the world. The world has nothing better to offer, but we have much to give through Christ, and, in giving our best, we receive His best.—**The Advanced Quarterly** (**F.W.B.**)

IN MEMORIAM
ILA MAE BERRY

It is with great sorrow that we write these words in memory of Ila Mae Berry, who passed away on May 20, 1978. She was 73 years old.

Funeral services were held on May 22 at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville. Burial followed in the Evergreen cemetery.

Surviving her are six children: Mr. Leslie Berry and Mr. David Berry (both of Pikeville); Mrs. Julia Crumpler and Mrs. Louise Phillips (Goldsboro); Mrs. Lula Belle Fitzgerald (Kenly); and Mrs. Margaret Radford (Lumberton); and one sister, Mrs. Leona Ingram (Goldsboro).

Ila had an overwhelming love for God and her church, Pleasant Hill, where she had been a member for 54 years. She was a faithful Christian worker in the church and auxiliary. She was continuously visiting different shut-ins every week and would carry ''goodies'' to them. While visiting she would share news of the community and church.

She was a devoted mother. If one got sick, she was ready and willing to help out wherever needed.

She was always smiling. If one was sitting in church and looked at her, that smile could be seen.

She loved life and enjoyed living to the fullest. She talked of her church and how we could improve it in order to better serve the Lord.

Yes, we miss her, but God took her according to His will. She served Him well. We are left to mourn her passing, but we should let the life she lived be a light to guide us as we struggle through this world of sorrow and troubles. If Ila had a testimony to give, we think it would have read something like this: ''Live each day as it comes—live it to the fullest, doing God's will, that is, to share the news of salvation with others.'' Our sharing could be visiting, praying and reading the Scriptures to others.

Ila is no longer with us, but her memories will live on.

''The Lord bless thee, and keep thee'' (Numbers 6:24).

LIFE IS FOREVER!
DEATH IS A DREAM!

If we did not go to sleep at night
  We'd never awaken to see the light,
And the joy of watching a new day break
  Or meeting the dawn by some quiet lake,
Would never be ours unless we slept
  While God and all His angels kept
A vigil through this ''little death''
  That's over with the morning's breath—
And death, too, is a time of sleeping
  For those who die are in God's keeping.
And there's a ''sunrise'' for each soul,
  For Life not Death is God's promised goal—
So trust God's promise and doubt Him never
  For only through death
Can man Live Forever!

—Helen Steiner Rice

Written by,
Louvene Berry
Sabra Pittman

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Roger Hartsell announces that he is available for full-time or part-time pastoral services. He is an ordained minister in the Piedmont Conference and has pastored a church in Peachland, for two and one-half years. He may be reached by writing: The Rev. Roger Hartsell, Route 6, Box 39, Albemarle, North Carolina 28001, or by phoning 704-982-9068.

The Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, corner of Ward Boulevard and Corbett Avenue Wilson, is seeking a pastor for full-time services. Anyone interested should contact: L. G. Etheridge, 1102 Industrial Avenue, Wilson, North Carolina 27893, or by phoning 243-4317.

The Rev. Elmo Truitt of New Bern wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral work to any Free Will Baptist Church that believes in and abides by the Original Statement of Faith and Discipline of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. Mr. Truitt is available for a part-time or a full-time church that does not require the pastor to live in a parsonage. Mr. Truitt will accept a church within one hundred miles of New Bern. He can be contacted by letter at his residence: 5322 Trent Woods Drive, New Bern, North Carolina 28560, or by phoning 919-537-2851.

The Rev. Larry Joyner wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral work. His address is, the Rev. Larry Joyner, Route 1, Box 52, Rockingham, North Carolina 28379.

"A Christian Home for Boys and Girls"

free will baptist children's home



MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

OAK GROVE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL OFFERING GIVEN TO THE CHILDREN'S HOME

The boys and girls of the Oak Grove church in the Pee Dee Association gave $36.23 to the Children's Home from their Bible school offerings this year. It's encouraging to see our youth becoming interested in the needs of other young people in the world. Through our youth God is raising up a new generation of zealous workers for His kingdom.

SAINTS DELIGHT PENNY MARCH

The Saints Delight Free Will Baptist Church of Bridgeton made a contribution of $83 from its penny march this month. Each Sunday as the Sunday school students march to their classes they march by the altar and lay their pennies saved from the week before on the altar for the Children's Home.

RISE IN CHILD CARE COSTS

The Duke Endowment, established by the James B. Duke family, for a number of years has provided aid to colleges, hospitals, child-caring agencies and other institutions throughout the country. Each year the Duke Endowment gives about $12,000 to our Children's Home.

In its annual report the Duke Endowment gave some statistics that will help to characterize the rising costs we as Free Will Baptists face in child care. "There has been an increase of 253 percent in the last 10 years in the average cost per child per day in assisted institutions." Costs rose from 5.05 percent in 1967 to 17.81 in 1977. The cost per child per year has risen from $1,843 to $6,501. The number of children receiving care in 1967 was 44.31, or 19.4 percent more than in 1977.

In the 1967 Duke report the cost of operation for our Children's Home was $1,189.90 per child per year. This amounts to $3.26 per child per day. In 1967 the Home reported serving 88 children.

In the 1977 Duke report our Home reported an average cost per child per day of $11.43 as compared to a $15.54 average for the other homes in the state comparable in size to ours. That averages out to a cost of $4,172 per child per year for our Home as compared to $5,671 for the seven other homes in our category.

In 1977 we cared for an average of 68.5 children per day. Duke Endowment reported a 253 percent increase in cost for all agencies. Our Home's total costs rose 251 percent for the same time period—the last 10 years. What all this actually means is that it takes $2.51 now to do what $1 did 10 years ago at our Children's Home.

Out of the eight Children's Homes in the group we are in we had the lowest operating cost per child per day. Two things can be said. Either we are operating more efficiently than all the rest or we are leaving some things undone that all of the others feel should be a part of good child care. Let's look at some comparisions:

	FWB HOME	AVERS, OTHER HOMES
*Administration Expenses	2.75	2.77
*Social Services	.47	.56
*Houseparent Salaries	1.92	2.58
Clothing	.56	.50
*Dietary Salaries	.44	.90
*Food Purchased	1.21	1.76
*Food Donated	.13	.20
Food Produced	.40	.33
*Laundry	.02	.24
*Plant, Maintenance Salaries	.40	1.13
*Fuel, Power, Water	1.59	1.65
*Insurance on Bldgs., Maintenance and Repairs	2.62	3.59
*Motor Service	.06	.28
*Health	.12	.31
*Recreation	.16	.37
*Special Education	.31	.94
*Religious Activities	.09	.13
Replacement of Equipment and Depreciation	.17	.08

You will note that our averages fall below the others in the areas marked by an asterisk.

Some of these areas, such as Laundry and Plant, represent efforts to economize. In areas such as Houseparent Salaries, Dietary Salaries, Special and Religious Education we need to spend more money.

Where does the money come from? Based upon anticipated income for 1978-79, 53 percent of the budget will come from Free Will Baptist churches; 21.04 percent of the budget from grants, foundations, endowments and dividends; 6 percent from parents and relatives; 4 percent from friends and others; 4 percent from farm sales, 2 percent from food produced; 2 percent from interest income; 1.5 percent from legacies and bequests; 1.5 percent from refunds; 7 percent from other religious income and the balance from miscellaneous sources. Our total budget from 1978-79 is $428,000, about a 1 percent increase over last year's budget. Last year our income was well within our needs.

We need to improve some of our programs and the improvements will be within our ability if our people will support us at least as well as last year. We have fewer children at present and will not be operating Albemarle Cottage for a while. It is anticipated that the effect inflation is having upon the cost of operation and the new programs needed will be offset by the revenues saved by the closing of Albemarle.

We hope this summary will be informative and helpful. If you have further questions your Executive Director will be happy to visit with you and share in greater detail the needs of our Children's Home.

ROSE HILL YOUTH CONTRIBUTE $300

The youth of Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville contributed nearly $300 to the Children's Home during June. About $60 was received through the Bible school. The balance came from the youth offerings through the year. These young people represent Christianity in action. We praise the Lord for young people who put others first.

JUNE INCOME DROPS

Our June income at the Home dropped sharply this year due to the late crop season. We wanted simply to remind our churches to maintain their level of giving during the summer months. Traditionally, our income is very low during this season; therefore, it is important that we not drop below the previous year's levels.

MORE PIGS NEEDED

Those of you who are hog farmers and have some pigs we can fatten for hog killing this fall, we are ready to receive your call anytime. We are only raising hogs on a need basis so if you have pigs you might wish to donate please let us know.

ATTENTION!

All ministers desiring to pastor churches within the Central Conference must receive clearance with the Ordaining Council before accepting pastorate.

Rev. Jack Mayo
Secretary of Central Conference
Ordaining Council

MOC

EDUCATION FOR THE MINISTER'S WIFE AND CHURCH LEADERS

by Frank Ray Harrison, Chaplain

In the maze of the ministerial calling and duties, the minister's wife is often overlooked. The focus of education is usually on the minister and yet the minister's wife can be his greatest helper.

Mount Olive College invites the minister's wife to enroll in an educational program that will best prepare her for greater service as she stands by her minister husband in the work of the church.

She may take any course for $20 per course at any time in the regular college credit program leading to an associate degree or a one-year business certificate.

Under this plan the minister's wife can earn two years of college work for less than $500. The remainder of the charges for tuition and fees is covered through scholarships and grants.

Church leaders enrolling in the regular college credit religion courses at night may do so for $20 per course.

Fall classes will begin August 24. For more information, contact: Frank Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina (919) 658-2502 (office) or 658-9363 (home).

CP&L NOW MATCHING GIFTS

Carolina Power and Light Company has joined the over 200 companies that will match gifts given by their employees to qualifying colleges.

The matching gift program is put into effect when a person working for a matching gift company, applies to the company for a matching gift form. After the company validates the form, a check will be sent to Mount Olive College for the same amount donated by the employee.

Persons interested in obtaining a list of companies that participate in the matching gift program may do so by writing: Development Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365, or phone (919) 658-2502.

MINISTERS' INSTITUTE MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE August 7, 8, 1978

Monday, August 7

9:30-10:00 A.M.—Registration and Refreshments

10:00-10:30 A.M.—The Need for Training Church Members, the Rev. Adrian Grubbs

10:30-12:00 Noon—Subjects and Resources for Training Church Member, the Rev. DeWayne Eakes

12:00 Noon—Lunch

1:00-2:00 P. M.—Structures and Methods for a Church Membership Training Program, the Revs. Chris Singleton, Clarence Bowen, Harry Grubbs, Daniel Brinson, David C. Hansley

(Continued on Page 16)

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 15)

2:00-3:00 P.M.—Involvement of Members in the Life and Ministry of the Church, the Rev. Ray Hodge, Minister of First Baptist Church Kinston, North Carolina

Tuesday, August 8

9:30-10:00 A.M.—Coffee and Donuts

10:00-10:30 A.M.—The positive Use of the Minister's Role, the Rev. Bruce Barrow

10:30-11:00 A.M.—The Minister as a Christian Educator, the Rev. Chris Singleton

11:00-12:00 Noon—The Minister and Pastoral Visitation, the Rev. C.L. Patrick

12:00 NOON—Lunch

1:00-2:00 P.M.—Resources for Sermon Preparation, the Rev. Harry Grubbs

2:00-3:00 P.M.—Sermon Preparation and the Church Year, the Rev. Bill Futch

Meetings will be in Room 115 of the Henderson Building. All ministers are invited to participate.

STUDENTS COMMENT ON FOUR-YEAR STATUS

by Bev. Herring

During the spring semester, 1977, approximately one hundred Mount Olive College students who were candidates for graduation were given a questionnaire asking the following question, "If Mount Olive College were a four-year institution at present and if it offered a desirable program in your major area, would you continue at Mount Olive College for two more years for your undergraduate degree?" Names were not required.

Of the approximate one hundred students, sixty responded to the question. Seventy-five percent or 45 students, indicated they would return and 25 percent or 15 students said they would not.

The Yes Side

From this poll the following reasons were listed in favor of remaining at Mount Olive. Location and small numbers were important to almost all polled. Comments like "small enough to know everyone", "friendly atmosphere", and "close relations between faculty and students" were prevalent with these opinions.

Another positive set of comments concerned the Christian atmosphere, sometimes expressed as "high moral standards."

Other comments included "high academic standards" and general positive feelings such as "Mount Olive cares," "teachers are understanding" and "Mount Olive has helped me grow a lot."

Several students expressed sincere attachments as a result of their experiences here like "I wish with all my heart it was a four-year school" and "I love it here."

The No Side

Of the fifteen replies which said "no", five were for reasons of marriage or because they only wanted a two-year program. This reaction was stated like "I've taken the courses I need for a secretarial science major" and "I just wanted the basics of a one-year program and I'm getting married."

Others expressed a desire to attend a larger college and/or live in a more urban setting. Some comments included, "I want the experience of a larger campus and city" and "Mount Olive College has been an enjoyable experience, but I would like to attend a larger school away from my home."

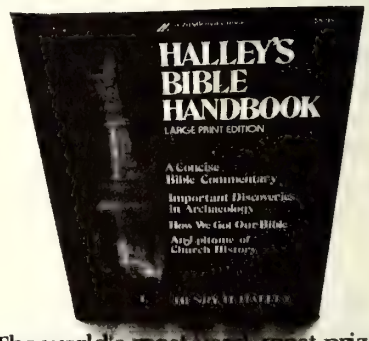
Other comments were concern that "adequate courses would be provided" in a four-year setting. One student also said, "The rules are too strict."

This poll and others will be used to evaluate the positive and also determine the needs that must be met to make Mount Olive College a viable four-year college at which time it is able to gain four-year status.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. James Warren announces that he is available for a full-time church. Mr. Warren is in good standing with the Eastern Conference and was ordained in October, 1972. He is free to come to any church in need of a full-time pastor for a trial sermon. He can be reached by calling 527-1648, or by writing: The Rev. James Warren, 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 1978

CHURCH OF THE MONTH



JUL 26
DURHAM, N. C.

FRIENDSHIP FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Farmville, North Carolina

Walter Reynolds, Pastor

Editorial . . .

AN EYE EXAMINATION

The eyes have been defined in poem and song. They are two complex organs which allow a person to observe his surroundings and to associate himself to his environment. Eyes are a blessing from God, and only when we discover that they are not as sharp as they used to be do we really appreciate them. We could never know their real, intrinsic value, unless we were forced to be without them.

Too often, we do take our eyes for granted, little realizing their real worth and seldom being conscious that many times they reveal much more about ourselves than we would wish to be known. They can sparkle happily or spit fire angrily.

Eyes can reveal one's personality. The way they look at us makes us consider the looker friendly or unfriendly, kind or unkind. They reflect our moods, our likes or dislikes, our approval or disapproval. They betray us and our way of thinking. They tell more about us than any other part of the anatomy. Eyes say that we will or we won't. Eyes say that we do or we don't. They have been described as the most expressive feature, and rightfully so.

All of us see things through tinted lenses, for our eyes see only what we want them to see. Things are seen as they are *wanted to be*, not necessarily *as they are*. Our eyes are critical when they examine another person. They exaggerate. They worsen the worst and make better the best. They make the doubtful more impossible and make the probable a sure fact. This is because our eyes reflect our inner feelings—desires of that which will be, or that which is hoped to be. Eyes do not decide for themselves, certainly; but by their aid our brains arrive at their conclusions.

No two eyes are exactly alike—even in the same person. Our left eye sometimes sees things differently than our right eye. We cannot see "eye to eye" with ourselves; and people who claim to see eye to eye with *each other* really do not. They might agree on certain matters and contend that they "see" them exactly alike, but this is not quite accurate. Because we are human (and everyone is) and because we all do not fit in the same mold (and none of us does), it is an impossibility to be one hundred percent in agreement.

Eighty percent of all knowledge and sensitivity is acquired through the use of the eyes. It is too bad that we have not really opened our eyes to the world about us. There is much that we miss because we simply do not look at it with "seeing" eyes.

Spiritually speaking, we have been taught to be watchful, not merely with our eyes, but with our conversation—our manner of living. Ah, but man learns slowly! And as we've pointed out, he must lose part of his sight before it becomes precious to him. For the most part we are practical people, and when we find our sight impaired, we usually seek medication or corrective glasses. It would follow that those of us who are in need of spiritual glasses should seek the proper treatment.

What we are really saying is that our spiritual sights are often improperly aimed. We either look too close or too far away. Spiritual nearsightedness and farsightedness are as bad as their physical counterparts; and if left untreated, they worsen with the passage of time.

It is not enough to realize that one's eyes are bad. One must desire to improve what he sees and his capacity for seeing. A multitude of concerns can thus be covered, considered, and resolved.

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JULY 26, 1978

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Smithfield, New Bern, and Wilson, 9:30 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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FRIENDSHIP
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Route 1, Farmville, N. C.
Water Reynolds, Pastor

(Information provided by Mrs. Johnny Lewis)

ON July 15, 1871, a handwritten deed from William Brand and his wife gave a parcel of land on which Friendship Free Will Baptist Church was located to James Moore, pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church at Friendship Meeting House. The conditions under which the deed was granted insisted that the church retain the name Friendship and practice the Free Will Baptist doctrine in good faith; otherwise, the title is void and the land becomes the property of the Brand heirs.

Membership of the church in 1871 numbered fifty-nine persons having grown from the thirty-four in 1870. Word was passed down that the first meetings were held under a brush shelter.

On the third Sunday of every month, families of the community would travel a dirt road by foot, horseback, or wagon to attend services. Usually those who would start by foot would be picked up by a wagon on the way until probably most of the wagons were full of worshipers when they arrived at the church.

The original log foundation for the small one-room plank church is still in place. We've been told that lanterns were used for lighting and a wood heater gave warmth for the winter.

Some feel that Mr. Jesse Shackleford made the first communion table and the pulpit which has been refinished and is in the chapel at present. Pews were made of planks, and the shutter windows were usually opened to the wooded yard.

The name "Friendship" has a special meaning for its members now as it did in the early days. An older member of the community, Mrs. Charlie Brann, has proudly said of the early 1900s, "Visitors told us our church sure had the right name."

The church grew enough that by the early 1900s the old building was replaced by a new and larger one. Another plank building was erected by the members who donated time and materials. Each side of the church was lighted by four kerosene lamps with reflectors. Pane glass windows were added and a wood heater was used. Members brought wood in the winter and the first to arrive began the fire to warm the church.

Pastors at Friendship during this time were paid with the offerings from the third Sundays plus some from the fourth quarterly meetings when members gave as they could. Many dedicated pastors gave much of this back to the church or to the needy of the community.

The fall revivals at the church lasted as long as two or three weeks if attendance was good. Many people stood in the aisles and outside the church to hear the evangelist.

Middle Swamp near Farmville, then called "old mill pond," was used by Friendship and other churches in the community for baptisms. Later Owen's Mill Road near Fountain and Speight's Bridge near Walstonburg were used.

Prayer meetings were held at the church, and are now, and also in the members' homes where they enjoyed the hospitality and friendliness of their neighbors.

According to conference minutes, Friendship's membership was sixty-three in 1891.

Friendship joined the Fourth Union of the Central Conference at its second meeting on August 30, 1902, at Aspen Grove, and was very active in the early years. At the April, 1905 meeting, Friendship was made a mission point.

J. H. Lumbey, one of the earliest pastors, held a singing school on Saturday afternoons. He taught the choir notes without the use of an organ or piano. Visitors often came to hear the choir which was well-known in the community.

The first pedal organ was used at the church in the early 1910s; but often the church had only a few songs printed without music and bound together to form hymnals. Years later, a piano was used.

Sunday school was begun before the 1920s at Friendship. Many attempts were made before a successful Sunday school was established. The first groups met on Sunday afternoons,

Turn the Page

and it wasn't until the 1930s that Sunday school began meeting on Sunday mornings.

During the 1920s the women at Friendship organized a Ladies' Aid which was and still is very active in the church.

The only split that has occurred in the church was in 1926, when almost half of the members formed Tyson's Chapel. Members of both churches still enjoy a close fellowship and visit for revivals and homecomings.

Vacation Bible school was held in June of 1945 for the first time at Friendship.

In 1947 a special choir area and Sunday school rooms were added to the back of the church. Electricity became available to the church in 1948.

Sunday morning worship services on the first Sunday of the month were added in 1950, in addition to the third Sunday services already being held.

In 1953 two additional classrooms and a vestibule were added to the front of the church. Homecoming services were begun on the third Sunday in April and are still held annually on this day.

A Free Will Baptist League was organized about 1954 and is still meeting every Sunday night at Friendship.

Around 1957, the church added a large Sunday school room and bathrooms onto the rear of the church. This was also a refreshment and social area for many years. About this time the church was brick veneered and other improvements were made.

In 1964, seeing the need for additional Sunday school rooms, Friendship built a separate educational building with eight rooms and an assembly area.

Membership grew and the need for a larger sanctuary led to a new church being built in 1971. As each time before, the members of Friendship funded and then began the new addition. For this impressive and beautiful setting members feel pride and reverence. Time and labor were donated by many devoted people and special recognition was given to C. Q. Little at the dedication services.

The former sanctuary is used as a chapel and was remodeled in 1972. Also, the third Sunday of every month was designated as building fund Sunday this year.

A steeple with chimes was added to the new sanctuary in 1973. Annual building fund day was begun the third Sunday of October. Plans for a fellowship hall were made and building was begun this year. It was finished in 1976 largely through the efforts of Jasper Beaman.

In 1973, a Young Woman's Auxiliary was organized. Since then, they have organized a youth choir and have begun fifth Sunday youth services.

Second and fourth Sunday morning worship services were added in 1976 to give full-time services. In 1977, annual memorial services were begun on homecoming day. Mother's Day was also set aside for baby dedication services.

Trustees for Friendship have been Harvey Cobb, Johnnie Holloman, and R. E. Cobb. Clerks have included Ivy Tyson, W. W. Worthington, Alex Brann, A. F. Shirley, Carl Tyson, and Johnnie Holloman. Carl Tyson was also a strong leader and an humble servant of God who touched many lives through his Christian work.

Serving as treasurers have been Zadock Cobb, W. J. Cobb, Harvey Cobb, and R. E. Cobb. The only available list of ruling elders enumerates Guy Craft, Paul Stepps, and L. D. Braxton. Mr. Braxton was also a faithful director of prayer services for many years and an inspiration to the entire church membership and community.

Among those who have served as deacons are William Brann, Clay Tyson, L. D. Braxton, J. C. Cobb, R. E. Cobb, Jesse O'Quinn, Carl Tyson, James Parker, Walter Sutton Jr., J. O. Beaman, Carlyle Oakley, Harvey Cobb, Walter Stanley, Carlos Tyson, and Linwood Cobb.

Friendship church has given the following to the ministry: Alonza Tyson, M. E. Tyson, Alex Brann, Dewey Tyson, Melvin Moore, Walter Sutton Jr., Luther Tyson, Carson Tyson, Morril Tyson, A. C. Morgan, and Tommy Tyson.

Pastors who have served Friendship church include James Moore, Jesse Shackleford, Alonza Tyson, R. E. Edmundson, J. H. Lumbey, T. H. Barnhill, C. J. Harris, Dennis Alexander, W. H. Laughinghouse, W. A. Dail, W. L. Hart, H. T. Sowers, M. E. Tyson, P. C. Wiggs (1940-October 1942), W. L. Moretz (November, 1942-October 1945), L. B. Manning (November, 1945-1949), J. D. Vernelson (1949-1953), R. L. Norville (1954-1957, 1961-1967), W. H. Willis (1958-1961), and Walter Reynolds (1967-present).

A small country church through the grace of God and the labors of love of its two hundred seventy-six dedicated members is today a growing and working church, united to do the will of our Lord and prayerfully looking to the future.

NEW DIRECTIONS IN THE CHURCH

submitted by DeWayne Eakes

Here is a statement from a book I have on my shelves: "Everybody says there is something wrong with the churches. The churches are in a bad way. In most of them only a small percent of the membership ever thinks of attending religious services regularly. It is quite customary for a church to be unable to secure the attendance of more than one-fourth of the number of people who might be accomodated in its auditorium. Young people are losing interest. Preachers are becoming discouraged. Every denomination is shouting that unless the ministry is speedily recruited with young men, a few more years will bring disaster!"

Those comments are not from a recent book on the current problems of the churches; they are from a book published in 1920 reflecting the plight of North American Protestantism at that time. The writer was Lloyd C. Douglas, a pastor in the United States of America and Canada who was later to achieve eminence as a popular novelist.

The churches somehow survived the religious depression of more than half-a-century ago, and they enjoyed a period of widespread acceptance and unprecedented prosperity in the fifteen or so years following the Second World War.

Then in the early sixties depression struck again. During the past fifteen years there has been a loss of nerve in the churches with steady erosions in active membership. This has led to much morbid introspection, which curiously seems to have stimulated much gimmicky and panicky experimentation. The striving for a secular relevance—a good thing in itself—has often made for an alarming spiritual irrelevance.

Now there are some signs of renewal in the churches. As a pastor I sense a new openness among people to the basic realities of faith and a new awareness of the resources in faith which can help them to fulfilment and meaning in their lives. This gives new challenge and new opportunity to those of us who teach and preach in the churches.

People no longer care, if they ever did, to hear our analyses of the international situation, the sex revolution, the nuclear dilemma, the environmental crisis, and such, although they do pay attention if we show them the resources in faith which can help them cope with the problems and menaces of life today and the ways in which faith can help them come to terms with the anxieties engendered by the great issues of our time. Many are learning that faith can help sustain them in responsible personhood in this troubled age, and they are finding that the simple disciplines of faith, prayer, worship, and the study of the Bible actually work when engaged in regularly.

This new concern for faith is not simply an ingrown pietism which evades the great issues of life, although that is always a danger. It is rather an awareness that biblical faith can give a person a sense of meaning and purpose in life. As a pastor and religious journalist I am much more hopeful about the renewal of the churches than I was as recently as five years ago.—J. A. Davidson, Dominion-Chalmers United Church, Ottawa, Canada

GOLDEN RULE

Joy Wilt watched third graders play a memory verse game. The teacher called out a verse, and the winner was the first to run to the center of the circle and quote the verse. When the teacher said "Matthew 7:12," three children collided as each rushed to be first. A not-too-friendly squabble followed, and when quiet was restored, the three in unison recited the words, "Whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them."—David W. Richardson, United Methodist Church, Portageville, Missouri.

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NOTICE

The Rev. Tom Miller Jr., the former pastor of the Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church, Greene County, is now pastoring the Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton. His address remains the same: The Rev. Tom Miller Jr., Route 1, Box 96, Hookerton, North Carolina 28538.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Roger Hartsell announces that he is available for full-time or part-time pastoral services. He is an ordained minister in the Piedmont Conference and has pastored a church in Peachland, for two and one-half years. He may be reached by writing: The Rev. Roger Hartsell, Route 6, Box 39, Albemarle, North Carolina 28001, or by phoning 704-982-9068.

The Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, corner of Ward Boulevard and Corbett Avenue Wilson, is seeking a pastor for full-time services. Anyone interested should contact: L. G. Etheridge, 1102 Industrial Avenue, Wilson, North Carolina 27893, or by phoning 243-4317.

The Rev. Elmo Truitt of New Bern wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral work to any Free Will Baptist Church that believes in and abides by the Original Statement of Faith and Discipline of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. Mr. Truitt is available for a part-time or a full-time church that does not require the pastor to live in a parsonage. Mr. Truitt will accept a church within one hundred miles of New Bern. He can be contacted by letter at his residence: 5322 Trent Woods Drive, New Bern, North Carolina 28560, or by phoning 919-537-2851.

The Rev. Larry Joyner wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral work. His address is, the Rev. Larry Joyner, Route 1, Box 52, Rockingham, North Carolina 28379.

The Rev. James Warren announces that he is available for a full-time church. Mr. Warren is in good standing with the Eastern Conference and was ordained in October, 1972. He is free to come to any church in need of a full-time pastor for a trial sermon. He can be reached by calling 527-1648, or by writing: The Rev. James Warren, 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.



SUNDAY, JULY 30

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 6:1

THE MONKEYS DISAGREE

Three monkeys sat in a cocoanut tree,
Discussing things that are said to be;
Said one to the other, "Now listen you two,
There's a certain rumor that can't be true:
That man descended from our noble race,
The very idea is a disgrace!

"No monkey ever deserted his wife;
Starved her babies, and ruined her life;
And you've never known a mother monk,
To leave her babies with others to bunk,
Or pass them on from one to the other,
Till they scarely knew who is their mother.

"And another thing you'll never see,
A monk build a fence around a cocoanut tree,
And let the cocoanuts go to waste,
Forbidding all other monks to taste;
Why, if I put a fence around a tree,
Starvation will force you to steal from me!

"Here's another thing a monk won't do:
Go out at night and get in a stew,
Or use a gun, club or knife,
To take some other monkey's life!
Yes, man descended, the ornery cuss,
But, brother, he didn't descend from us!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Man sometimes does some stupid things. He does not even stop to think. God gave him more ability than that, and he should use it wisely.

MONDAY, JULY 31

Scripture Reading—Exodus 20:12

THE FATHER'S CONCERN

One Sunday night D. L. Moody preached in a big circus tent near the Columbian Exposition in Chicago from the text, "The Son of man is come to seek and to save the . . . lost." After he had finished, a little boy was brought to the platform by an officer who had found the child wandering in the crowd, lost. Mr. Moody took him in his arms and asked the crowd to look at the lost child. Said he: "The father is more anxious to find the boy than the boy is to be found. It is just so with our Heavenly Father, for long years He has been following you, oh sinner. He is following you still!" At that moment a man with a blanched face elbowed his way to the platform. The boy saw him and, running, threw himself into his father's outstretched arms. The multitude that witnessed the scene broke into a mighty cheer. "Thus," cried Mr. Moody, "will God receive you if you will only run to Him today."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should run with outstretched arms to Jesus, because He is the Good Shepherd. He loves and cares for all His sheep.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

Scripture Reading—Revelation 1:9

PUT OFF WORRY AND DISTRESS
(A Bedtime Prayer)

Ere thou sleepest, gently lay
Every troubled thought away;
Put off worry and distress,
As thou puttest off thy dress;
Drop thy burden and thy care
In the quiet arms of prayer.

Lord, Thou knowest how I live,
All I've done amiss forgive;
All of good I've tried to do
Strengthen, bless and carry through;
All I love in safety keep
While in Thee I fall asleep.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Before we go to sleep, we should ask God to take care of us and especially our burdens of the day.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

Scripture Reading—2 Thessalonians 3:5

BE NOT ANXIOUS

Be not anxious about tomorrow. Do today's duty, fight today's temptations, and do not weaken and distract yourself by looking forward to things which you cannot see and could not understand if you saw them. Enough for you that the God for whom you fight is just and merciful, for He rewardeth every man according to his work.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should not judge other men according to their works; God will do that. He looks after all His children.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3

Scripture Reading—Matthew 16:26

WHERE CONTAMINATION IS INEVITABLE

"I think a Christian can go anywhere," said a young woman who was defending her continued attendance at some very doubtful places of amusement. "Certainly she can," rejoined her friend, "but I am reminded of a little incident that happened when I went with a party of friends to explore a coal mine. One of the young women appeared dressed in a dainty white gown. When her friends remonstrated with her she appealed to the old miner who was to act as guide to the party. 'Can't I wear a white dress down into the mine?' she asked petulantly. 'Yes'm,' returned the old man. 'There's nothin' to keep you from wearin' a white frock down there, but there'll be considerable to keep you from wearin' one back.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus likes for His children to wear a white robe of purity. But when His children sin that makes them wear a black one.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 33:11

CAN'T WORK SOUL TO SAVE

I cannot work my soul to save
For that my Lord has done;

But I can't work like any slave
For love of God's dear Son.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus told us in Matthew to go to all the world and preach the gospel.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

Scripture Reading—Acts 21:14

ALL PART OF GOD'S PLAN

The sun is shining in its place,
Each little flower with up-turned face
Is part of God's great plan,
The stalwart trees all stand erect,
The moon and stars their light reflect,
But what, we ask, of man?

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should be thankful to God for all the wonderful things He has given to us.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

MISSIONS

LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT

by Missionary Wayne King

We had traveled seven hard hours on open water to reach Burias Island. Yet upon reaching its coasts, there was still more territory to cover by land. The island had to be traversed and there was only one available way to do it: walk it.

We would be spending several nights on Burias, traveling from place to place and conducting preaching services as we went. Our initial hike would take us more than five miles up, down, and around winding mountain trails as we crossed the island.

It was a hot, humid afternoon as we left our boat and waded to shore. The rocky bottom of the shallow green waters threatened to bruise my tender feet, save for the rubber sandals I was wearing. A short distance, and the strap on a sandal broke, making them useless. My brown-skinned Filipino brother-in-Christ, Lorenzo dela Rosa, took off his own sandals and handed them to me. "Here, take these," he said. I didn't resist his offer.

As our long winding hike began, I was already feeling somewhat tired. My sun-reddened skin had begun to burn; the hair at the back of my neck was completely drenched with perspiration, and the excess of sweaty water trickled down my back and chest, wetting my shirt as well. A cool drink of water would have been a luxury.



Preaching the gospel to a backyard gathering on Burias Island.

For more than five miles we would have to walk, carrying heavy loads up and down those mountain paths. Yet somewhere along the way, that same brown-skinned brother who had come to my rescue before, seemed to sense that my load was especially heavy and that I was becoming somewhat weary.

As our party stopped by the wayside to grab a minute's rest and catch our breaths after just ascending that last steep hill, he took a stick, maybe four feet long and notched it at both ends. Then he took my bulky bag and attached it to one end of the stick and his own heavy pack on the opposite end. Next he lifted up that shaft of a stick, placed it across his shoulders, taking care to balance the weight on both ends. Then he started once again down the mountain trail carrying his load and mine, too. I stopped him only momentarily as I protested his charitable gesture: "That's too heavy for you, Brother Lorenzo; I can carry it."



A church building goes up for a newlyformed Free Will Baptist congregation on Burias Island.

"It's not so much," he said, and started again. I stopped him once more.

"Brother Lorenzo," I said, "you are a real brother. You took off your own rubber sandals and gave them to me to keep me from hurting my feet on the rocks. Now you want to carry my heavy baggage."

He turned his head and looked at me with a half-embarrassed smile and said, as sincerely as anyone has ever said to me: "It's because we loves you, Bruder Wayne."

I continued down that mountainside, pondering those words of my humble Filipino brother: "Because we loves you, Bruder Wayne."

A good feeling filled my heart. I was deeply touched by his statement. And as I went, I was glad more than ever that I am a missionary.

CHURCHES AND MINISTERS AVAILABLE

The Rev. Ronnie Lovin announces that he is now available for evangelistic or supply work. Mr. Lovin is an ordained minister in good standing with the Piedmont Conference. He is a member of the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, where the Rev. Walter Carter is pastor. Mr. Lovin's address is Route 3, Box 471-A, Rockingham, North Carolina 28379. His phone number is (919) 895-2134.

The Rev. E. Floyd Smith wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral work. His address is the Rev. E. Floyd Smith, Route 3, Box 199, Selma, North Carolina 27576. His telephone number is 965-5406.

The peace of God passeth all understanding and misunderstanding.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: Please explain: "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it" (John 14:14). Does this mean that we shall receive every large as well as small thing for the simple asking in prayer?

Answer: To understand this verse we must obey the general rule that every verse or passage of Scripture must be explained in the light of the correct interpretation of all related Bible texts in order that we experience no conflict.

George H. Sandison, in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered**, says:

"In John 14:14 (which should be read in connection with its surroundings), Jesus was speaking (in the discourse at table after the Supper) of the way, the truth, and the life, and of how his disciples might render acceptable service for the advancement of God's kingdom on earth. He was about to leave them and he gave them the assurance that they would be endowed with power, after his departure, to do the works that he had done. Verse 14 gave them the assurance of his continuous intercession and their prayers would be heard and answered. He had already told them that they should seek first the kingdom and all things would be added unto them. This verse also shows his divine equality, in the words I will do it. Our own prayers should be, as far as we are able to make them so, in line with God's will. There are many of us who may ask for things that would be for our own harm; but if we seek first the kingdom, we have then the assurance that he will care for all our other needs, supply our wants, comfort our sorrows, relieve our hardships and take us safely through the difficult places of life. We have a right to ask for these, if we have acquired this right by belief on the Son of God and by acting in accordance with the divine will. See John 14:12."

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?



Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, NC

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY INC.

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR MAY 1978

Balance Brought Forward May 1, 1978			$ 2,008.90
Receipts			
Albemarle District			
Auxiliary Convention	$ 49.00		
Sunday School Convention	6.00		
Union Meeting	15.90		
Sidney	26.32	$ 97.22	
Cape Fear District			
Auxiliary Convention	61.14		
Rev. and Mrs. Fred Baker	25.00		
Casey's Chapel Auxiliary	25.00		
Goldsboro, First	200.00		
Dorcas Circle	10.00		
Hopewell Auxiliary	10.00		
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Cooke Jr.	25.00		
Johnston Union Youth	25.00		
Frances Phillips	25.00		
Lee's Chapel Auxiliary	4.50		
Oak Grove Auxiliary	10.00		
Palmer Memorial			
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Garris	25.00		
Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Barbour	50.00		
Glen Dupree	100.00		
Pleasant Grove Auxiliary	20.00		
Powhatan Auxiliary	10.00		
Mrs. Burkette Raper	5.00		
Robert's Grove Auxiliary	45.00		
YFA Rock-A-Thon	375.00		
Shady Grove Auxiliary	20.00		
Smithfield, First	50.00		
Auxiliary	10.00		
West Clinton	72.28		
Wooten's Chapel Auxiliary	20.00		
Yelverton Grove	55.00		
Mrs. Person Daughtry	25.00	1,302.92	
Central District			
Aspen Grove Auxiliary	9.55		
Mrs. Bruce Barrow	5.00		
Bethany Auxiliary	20.00		
Black Jack Auxiliary	71.90		
Olive McGowan	100.00		
Central Auxiliary Convention	435.88		

Daniels Chapel	250.00	
Auxiliary	29.00	
Dawson's Grove Auxiliary	25.00	
Dilda's Grove Auxiliary	20.00	
Edgewood Auxiliary	35.00	
Elm Grove Auxiliary	40.00	
Friendship League	60.00	
Auxiliary	106.11	
Sunday School	25.00	
Greenville Auxiliary	10.00	
Grimsley Auxiliary	3.00	
Gum Swamp Auxiliary	3.00	
Harrell's Chapel Auxiliary	5.00	
Hickory Grove Auxiliary	10.00	
Howell Swamp Auxiliary	34.50	
Hugo Auxiliary	43.06	
Hull Road Auxiliary	20.00	
King's Cross Roads Auxiliary	30.00	
Emerson Hobgood	25.00	
LaGrange Auxiliary	39.12	
Marlboro Auxiliary	28.60	
Ormondsville Auxiliary	10.00	
Otter's Creek Sunday School	9.94	
Owens Chapel Auxiliary	14.00	
Piney Grove Auxiliary, Pitt County	17.70	
Reedy Branch	175.00	
Rocky Mount Auxiliary	16.00	
Rose Hill	100.00	
Sunday School	25.00	
Auxiliary	15.00	
J. Raymond Harris	25.00	
Saratoga Auxiliary	62.00	
Second Union	12.47	
Spring Branch Auxiliary	20.00	
Tarboro, First	150.00	
Auxiliary	5.00	
Williamston, First	25.00	
Winterville Y. W. Auxiliary	35.00	
Crusaders Trio	125.00	$ 2,325.83
Eastern District		
Arapahoe Auxiliary	9.00	
Bethel	50.00	
Beulaville Auxiliary	110.00	
Bridgeton Auxiliary	20.00	
Crab Point	15.00	
Deep Run Auxiliary	20.00	
Mrs. Hazel Taylor	25.00	
Emma Elmore	25.00	
Mrs. Elton Harper	25.00	
Eastern Auxiliary Convention	47.54	
Fifth Sunday School Convention	10.00	
Fifth Union	15.00	
Friendship Auxiliary	20.00	
Hillsberry		
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McLamb	25.00	
Jackson Heights Church	62.18	
Auxiliary	2.25	
Juniper Chapel Auxiliary	100.00	
Moseley's Creek Auxiliary	50.00	
Rock of Zion Auxiliary	36.50	
Saint Mary's Auxiliary	30.00	
Sandy Plain Auxiliary	10.00	
Sound View Auxiliary	15.00	
Mrs. Doris W. Smith	25.00	
Snow Hill Auxiliary	20.00	
Third Sunday School Convention	25.00	
Rev. Lloyd Vernon	150.00	
Warden's Grove	31.24	
Auxiliary	30.00	
White Oak Grove Auxiliary	24.50	
Wintergreen Auxiliary	29.00	$ 1,057.21
Pee Dee District		
White Oak		
Thomas and Hattie Bright	10.00	10.00
Piedmont District		
Highland Pines Auxiliary	20.00	20.00
Western District		
Free Union, Nash		
Rev. and Mrs. Lester Duncan	20.00	
First Union	120.80	
First Sunday School Convention	50.00	
Flood's Chapel	5.00	
Fremont Auxiliary	7.50	
Holly Springs Auxiliary	15.00	
Mary L. Joyner	25.00	
Kenly Auxiliary	20.00	
Little Rock Auxiliary	3.00	
Marsh Swamp Auxiliary	6.00	
Micro Auxiliary	25.00	
Milbournie	23.00	
Mrs. Eunice Morris	50.00	
People's Chapel	50.00	
People's Chapel Sunday School	5.00	
Pine Level Auxiliary	20.00	
Pleasant Hill	100.00	
Auxiliary	50.00	
Saint Mary's Auxiliary	109.78	
Sherron Acres	100.00	
Spring Hill	325.00	
Stancil's Chapel Auxiliary	3.00	
Stoney Creek Auxiliary	25.00	
Miss Gladys Albritton	25.00	
Union Grove Auxiliary	4.50	
Miss Louise Edgerton	25.00	
Unity, Durham	25.00	
Wilson, First	250.00	$ 1,487.58
Others		
Anonymous	11.75	
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Allen	25.00	
Christian Service Fund	174.05	
Cragmont Rally (Cash)	127.87	
State Youth Convention	853.00	
Total Receipts		1,191.67
Withdrawal from General Savings		7,492.43
Total for which to Account		2,500.00
Disbursements		$12,001.33
Operational Expenses	225.64	
Douglas Skinner, Salary	400.00	

(Continued on Page 10)

CRAGMONT

(Continued from Page 9)

Burress Insurance Agency	329.00	
Kenly Printing Company	18.98	
Paint for Tabernacle	208.09	
Sign Supplies	140.00	
Tractor Repairs	806.42	
W. E. Stewart, Plumbers (To open Cragmont	491.17	
H. Donald Scott, Auditor	735.00	
Douglas Skinner, Advance to open Camp and Camp Deposits	1,350.00	
Transfer to Main Building Fund	4,860.10	
Transfer to General Savings	328.73	
Total Disbursements		9,893.13
Balance On Hand June 1, 1978		$ 2,108.20

Note: Figures include: Cragmont Rally Contributions	$ 1,237.87	
State Woman's Auxiliary Convention	2,298.89	
Earmarked funds		
General Fund		$ 2,108.20
General Savings		1,148.66
Main Building Fund		63,461.17
Total in Bank		$66,718.03

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer
Route 1
Sims, North Carolina 27880

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BIBLE CONFERENCE WEEK AT CRAGMONT

(July 31—August 5)

A wonderful week of activities is planned for the Young People's Bible Conference for the week of July 31 through August 5. There will be inspiring lessons on prayer and a recreational time centered on olympics. The cost for the week is $50. There is still room for a few more to attend. Don't wait! Contact the Rev. J. B. Starnes, Route 1, Box 608-C, Morehead City, North Carolina 28557, or by phoning 726-4218.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The address of Mrs. A. B. Chandler, treasurer of Cragmont Assembly, Inc., has changed from P. O. Box 298, Oriental, North Carolina to Route 1, Sims, North Carolina 27880.

Children's Home

"I, TOO, HAVE HOPE"

In his address at the closing NAHC Banquet, United States Secretary of Labor, the Honorable F. Ray Marshall, warmly recounted his experiences growing up in a Mississippi Children's Home. Dr. Marshall told members, "I greatly appreciate the work you're doing, and I probably understand better than almost anyone else what it means to young people to have people to care for them when they don't have homes."

In reflecting on his youth in the Mississippi Baptist Orphanage (now the Baptist Children's Village), Dr. Marshall attributes many of his values and goals to these early experiences. Among the strongest influences were:

> Work which taught him discipline, self-reliance and a sense of what he could do and become.
>
> School which taught him the joy of learning, and the pride of accomplishment.
>
> Religious experience which offered him a foundation of moral principles.

Dr. Marshall expressed his deeply felt belief in the important contributions of residential group care to the lives of individual children and to the well-being of the country. And, with moving simplicity, the sixteenth United States Secretary of Labor told the leaders of America's voluntary child care agencies, "I want to thank you on behalf of all of us who've been in children's homes."

Speaking of group child care, Dr. Edward Thorne says in the preface of a book entitled, I HAVE HOPE, written by one of our distinquished alumni, Mr. Jerry Smith, the role of church denominational private child care "has been one of positive significance in the lives of many; yet it is a role not without omissions and weakness. Advances in the social sciences, concern for the rights of the child, and the changing institutional concept have focused attention on the inadequacies of residential child care." Our Lord himself said, "It would be better to be drowned in the sea than to offend or hurt one of His little ones." No one in professional child care claims that all its programs and staff are all they should be and it's possible, if not probable, that some agencies through the years have closed their eyes to the world about them, casting their agency into an archaic sea of mediocrity.

The descriptive material found in Jerry's book characterizes the outcome of this lack of concern for the welfare of children in care. Poor agency planning, goal setting, staffing and lack of administrative ability are big factors. This does not mean that the persons were not striving to do their very best, only that too often they were poorly prepared or educated in a different field and were not familiar with the needs of children. The same is true of houseparents and other personnel. At one point the requirements for houseparents were that "you had to be able to hear thunder and see lightning."

Those days are passing. They are passing too slowly for some of us, but

they are passing, and **I, too, have hope** that tomorrow's child caring agency will be both compassionate and homelike as well as being professional in its care of children.

Dr. James Whittaker, when speaking to the NAHC 1977 convention, said, "The fields of residential child care is entering a period of change that goes to the very core of its existence." The basic purpose of residential care should be to function as a family support system rather than as a family substitute system."

Looking at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home we observe that there are no orphans in our care. There is no war, no epidemics to claim parents today, thank God. We have only 8 or 10 half orphans simply because Social Security and Social Services help single parents keep their children at home, and also since women have become liberated they can now be heads of households —not that they haven't been all along. Because of this the child in care today usually comes from very low-class communities, has probably been truant from school for some time, or is failing at any rate. His medical and dental needs have largely been ignored and his parents are separated or divorced. Many of the children have been abused by parents who themselves are pushed to the limits of emotional, physical, social adversity.

In spite of all the child may have experienced at the hands of his parents, his parents are very much alive and they are his parents. Parents must become an integral part of the caring team for the child. What I believe to be a more adequate interpretation of the matter is that the modern child care facility must and is becoming a family care facility. A facility which from time to time may provide relief for a family by housing and providing for the needs of the child, but also ministering to the parent at the same time. Many times mere family support through counseling, day care services for the child, and simply calling attention to a family's need to come to a local church or agency is all that is needed. Child care, as Dr. Whittaker said, must become a family support system rather than a family substitute system.

Change we must and change we will. In fact, the process of change is well underway. Under the leadership of previous administrators our Home became a licensed agency. Single, 50-60-year-old houseparents gave way to houseparent couples in their early 30's. Five staff members are in the process of completing the CTP programs sponsored by the Group Child Care Consultant Services of the University of North Carolina. Others have already completed it. More of our houseparents than not have college degrees in social work, psychology, and community mental health. Our social worker has a background in the court system where he worked daily with the type of child received on our campus. Child abuse is not tolerated. Should a staff member be guilty of substantiated child abuse his or her job is terminated.

I could go on and on but there are other things that must be said. For one thing, this change that is being called for is changing the face of the agency that provided a home for you. Change is often great as long as it doesn't affect us personally. But it does affect us and will continue to do so.

Child labor laws that protect the health and safety of children no longer allow the kind of work programs you knew and feel to be valid.

Child abuse laws no longer permit the kind of discipline you knew to be administered. You very often didn't dare act out or say what you felt. Today a child speaks his frustration in vivid language and often demonstrates the same in his behavior. It doesn't go unnoticed, but the child is not grabbed up and spanked immediately. Rather, his houseparents and others in the caring team seek ways to resolve the conflict that brought on the acting out in the child's life. Sometimes a spanking is one of the tools used. For the most part, when parents resort to spanking it means we have run out of ideas.

There is so much more, but time will not allow us to pursue. The finger of accusation from Jerry's book and from the world without has caused child care agencies to evaluate themselves and evaluate we have. New goals and strategies are emerging. Greater emphasis is being placed on planning with families rather than trying to provide substitute care. A new standard of excellence through agency licensing is being set.

Benchmarks recommended by Dr. Whittaker are becoming prevalent in our agency and all others. There must be:

Low visibility to keep children from feeling "different."

Community integration through recreational programs, volunteers, advisory boards.

Consumer validation by soliciting feedback from children, teachers, agencies and parents.

Flexibility by being able to shift gears when program needs change.

Comprehensibility by establishing goals that can be understood by the lay public.

I believe that I can honestly say to you today that the administration of this Home has been in the thick of the struggle for better child care for many years. Each Superintendent has made his mark, each in his own way has contributed to a better, brighter future for children. Much still remains to be done. I can only promise you that this administration will continue to strive to provide nothing short of the best child care program possible within our capability. But more than that, we will not be satisfied until we have raised the horizons of our capability as far as this generation will allow us.

John Dewey said, "What the best wisest parent wants for his child, that must the community provide for all its children." So I say unto you today, "what the best wisest parent wants for his child, that, with God's help, we will provide for the children who come into our care." "I, too, have hope."

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For August 6

THE CHURCH AND THE STATE

Lesson Text: Acts 21:27-36; 25:11, 12
Memory Verse: Proverbs 3:6

I. INTRODUCTION

Our last lesson concluded with Paul's departure from Miletus after his affectionate farewell to the Ephesian elders. He then sailed around the southwestern end of Asia Minor to Patara on the mainland. At this place, the apostolic group changed ships and sailed to Tyre, where the ship unloaded its cargo. Here they found disciples and spent seven days among them. Some who had the gift of prophecy warned Paul not to go to Jerusalem. After an affectionate, prayerful farewell, the apostolic group again boarded the ship and came to Ptolemais. The next day they went on down to Caesarea by land. While they were in Caesarea, a prophet, Agabus, came down from Judea and also foretold trouble for Paul if he went to Jerusalem. Paul's friends begged him, with tears, not to go, but he refused their entreaties, saying he was willing to die at Jerusalem for Jesus, if necessary.

When Paul and his companions arrived at Jerusalem, the Christian brothers received them with joy; and they rejoiced at Paul's report of all his Christian work. However, because of the false report that he opposed the keeping of the law, the church leaders urged him to take some men to the temple and help pay their dues in fulfilling vows they had taken. The Jerusalem leaders felt that if Paul went to the temple with them and participated in Jewish rites it would indicate he was not seeking the immediate and violent overthrow of Judaism. The leaders did not object to the conversion of the Gentiles and their separate existence apart from most Jewish observations. But they felt that Paul should show he was not against the continued observance of some Jewish customs by Jews who had been converted to Christ.

Paul heeded their advice and went with the four men to the temple. In his **Commentary on Acts of Apostles**, J. W. McGarvey indicates the four were doubtless under a Nazarite vow and had become unclean from contact with a dead body. Thus they fulfilled the law's requirements by having their heads shaved at the altar and by sacrificing a sin offering and a burnt offering for each person. The total time required was seven days (Numbers 6:2-12). It appears that Paul was helping to pay the expenses of their offerings as a token of his continued respect for the Jewish system (v. 24). It was toward the close of the period of purification that the events in our lesson begin.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The material for this lesson covers five chapters (Acts 21—25), too much Scripture to deal with within the scope of one lesson. However, the lesson contains enough of the facts for you to see Paul's story unfolding as he traveled from one place to another.

B. William Lasor in his book, **Church Alive**, says that when Paul left Corinth he was really traveling to Rome. He had written the Romans from Corinth, and his mind was set on Rome and the West. Going to Jerusalem seems to have been a side trip at this time.

C. Nevertheless, Paul and his companions left Corinth to go to Jerusalem. It is reasonable to assume that they boarded a ship in Miletus and sailed straight for Cos, about forty-five miles. The next day they continued on to Rhodes, about seventy miles. On the third day, they went to Patara, also about seventy miles. They must have made this part of their journey in a small vessel designed to sail along the coast, because at Patara they found a larger ship and sailed to Phoenicia, about four hundred miles, straight to Tyre, where the ship was to unload some cargo.

D. Paul and his companions stayed in Tyre for seven days. During this time, they found some Christians and made friends, so that when they left a large crowd came down to the dock to see them off.

E. From Tyre, the ship sailed to Ptolemais, where Paul and his party spent a day with the brethren. From there they went to Caesarea, where Paul and his group were lodged in the home of Philip the evangelist, one of the seven original deacons. Philip had four daughters, who were prophetesses.

F. In the cities where Paul stopped en route to Jerusalem he was repeatedly warned that what would happen in Jerusalem would be of grave consequence to him. At Tyre, the believers warned him not to set foot in Jerusalem. But something unusual happened at Caesarea. While Paul was in Philip's home, a prophet named Agabus came from Judea and went to visit Paul. Taking Paul's belt, he bound his own hands and feet and said, ''. . . Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles'' (Acts 21:11).

G. When the other Christians heard this, they insisted that Paul not go to Jerusalem. Paul answered, ''. . . What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus'' (21:13).

H. Observe that Luke was traveling in the group, indicated by his use of the personal pronoun ''we'' in Verses 14 and 15. It is evident that Luke joined with the others to try to keep Paul from going to Jerusalem, but they could not persuade him to discontinue his trip.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

NEWS & NOTES

Second Union S. S. Convention and Union Meeting

The Second Union Sunday School Convention and the Second Union Meeting of Original Free Will Baptists will meet July 30, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, 406 Cokey Road, Rocky Mount. The Sunday School Convention begins at 3 p. m. with Bruce Gray as president. The Union Meeting follows with W. R. Harris as moderator. All area churches are invited to attend.

Youth Sunday Observed At Calvary Church

Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will have youth Sunday, July 30. Sunday school classes will be taught by the young people. Miss Pam Johnson, one of the outstanding young people of the church, will bring the message during the morning services. Miss Johnson is a student at Mount Olive College, where she has been elected as a resident assistant for this fall. All young people are cordially invited.

Carteret County SS and Union Meeting, Crab Point Church

The Carteret County Sunday School Convention and Union Meeting will be held at the Crab Point Original Free Will Baptist Church, on Saturday, July 29. The scheduled program is as follows:

Sunday School Convention

5:00—Devotions, Host Church
5:10—President's Remarks and Appointment of Committees
5:15—Roll Call of Churches and Attendance Check
—Offering and Letters
5:30—Reading of the Minutes
—Treasurer's Report
5:35—Business Session
—Election of Officers
5:50—Report of Committees and Awarding of Banner
5:55—Break

Lay speaker who may be called upon by sister churches for morning worship, prayer meeting or special services: James Gurganus, Route 3, Box 64, Newport, North Carolina 28570, Phone 223-5251.

Union Meeting

6:00—Hymn, Host Church
—Prayer
—Meeting Called to Order
—Moderator's Remarks
—Recognition of Delegates
—Appointment of Committees
—Congregational Hymn and Offering
—Roll Call of Churches and Reading of Church Letter
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Reading of Minutes
6:30—Business Session
—Special Denominational Reports
6:45—Reports of Committees
—Special Announcements
6:50—Congregational Hymn and Special Singing
—Message, the Rev. Hubert Bennett
—Alternate, the Rev. Alton Mason
7:30—Adjournment

Dedication Services Held At Owens Chapel Church

Dedication services were held on May 28 on Sunday night at Owens Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City. The pastor, the Rev. Swade Benson, conducted a very inspiring dedication service. Scripture was taken from 2 Chronicles 7:1-14. Thanks was given to the Lord for the organ and tables. There was also a prayer of dedication.

First Union of Western Conference Meets at Trinity Church

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet Saturday, July 29, with Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Johnston County. The host pastor, the Rev. Lloyd Hargis, and the Union extend a cordial invitation to everyone. The Rev. Keith Cobb, pastor of Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, will preach the Union message.

Albemarle Union, Sunday School, and League Convention, Plymouth Church

The Plymouth Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting, Sunday School Convention, and League Convention on July 29. The scheduled program is as follows:

UNION MEETING

OPENING SESSION

10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Charles Parrish
10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Floyd Burkey
—Response, the Rev. Robert May
10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charlie Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time

BUSINESS SESSION

10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Press, Via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
—Memorial Service, Mrs. Darlene Oliver
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP

11:10—Hymn

Continued on Page 15.

INCOMING STUDENTS ORIENTATION PLANNED

Summer Orientation for students attending Mount Olive College for the first time will be held on Friday and Saturday, August 4, 5.

The schedule has been set as follows:

Friday

8:30-10:30 a. m.—Registration (Residence Halls)
10:30-11:00 a. m.—Opening Session (Rodgers Chapel)
11:00-11:30 a. m.—Student Panel
11:30- 1:00 p. m.—Lunch (Cafeteria)

Group A	Group B
1:00- 2:30 p. m.—Academic Information (209 Henderson Building)	Student Life (Rodgers Chapel)
2:30- 3:00 p. m.—Break	

Group A	Group B
3:00- 4:30 p. m.—Student Life (Rodgers Chapel)	Academic Information (209 Henerson Building)
4:30- 5:30 p. m.—Free Time	

5:30- 6:30 p. m.—Picnic Supper (Residence Hall Area)
6:30- 8:00 p. m.—Open Recreation (Student Center and Athletic Field)
8:00- 9:00 p. m.—Rap Sessions with Resident Assistants (Residence Halls)
9:00-11:00 p. m.—Informal Mixer (Hart Lounge) Sponsored by Resident Assistants
12:00 Midnight—Dorms Close

Saturday

7:30- 8:15 a. m.—Breakfast (Cafeteria)
8:30- 9:00 a. m.—Devotional (Rodgers Chapel)
9:00-12:00 Noon—Pre-registration for Fall Classes (North Lobby-Henderson Building)

Incoming students should be pre-registered to attend.

MISS NEIGHBORS IS RECIPIENT

Miss Paula Renee Neighbors was awarded a Presidential Scholarship to Mount Olive College for the fall semester, 1978, announced Russell W. Duncan, Director of Admissions.

As a graduate of Dunn High School, Miss Neighbors received the Algebra II Award, French I Award, Shorthand and Typing I Award and Chemistry Award.

In sports, Miss Neighbors lettered in basketball four years, softball three years, and tennis two years. She has also signed to play on the Lady Trojan Basketball team.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Neighbors and a member of Hodges Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

FALL CURRICULUM ANNOUNCED FOR PAUL PALMER INSTITUTE



Free Will Baptist leaders and College personnel discuss Paul Palmer Institute.

The Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies is a carefully designed program for ministers and lay persons who wish to prepare themselves for more effective service to Christ and the Christian faith. The program and policies of the Institute are based on the recommendations of an Advisory Council of representative Free Will Baptist ministers and laymen. The College welcomes and encourages ideas and suggestions from all interested persons on how the Institute can best serve the educational needs and interests of the Free Will Baptist Church.

This program is designed for those persons who cannot enroll as regular students in colleges or seminary, but who wish to engage in some program of study and training.

The Institute offers a Basic and Advanced Curriculum Certificates. The Basic Curriculum Certificate is for lay persons who wish to become better informed leaders and may be earned upon completion of 45 units. The Advanced Curriculum is designed for Ministers and may be earned by completing 64 units of credit.

The courses for the fall term will begin Monday night, August 28 at 7 p. m. in the Henderson Building and will meet

once a week for eight weeks. Each class will meet for one hour and fifteen minutes each session. It is possible to take two courses in each eight-week session.

In the first term the following courses will be offered: Communications Skills (2 units of credit) at 7 p. m.; Introduction to the Bible (3 units of credit) and Pastoral Care (3 units of credit) at 8:30 p. m.

In the second term of the fall semester, the following courses will be offered: Basic Communications Skills (2 units of credit) at 7 p. m.; Old Testament (3 units of credit) and Church History (3 units of credit) at 8:30 p. m.

The cost will be $20 per course with an initial $10 registration fee.

For more information please contact: Frank R. Harrison, Director, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365, or phone (919) 658-2502 (office) or 658-9363 (home).

CORRECTION

In the April 19, 1978, issue of the "Baptist" the following gifts were credited as given by the Celia Hart Garris Auxiliary of the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church. We have been informed that they should have been as follows:

In Memory of

Kenneth Long by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Stocks,
Mrs. Janice Overman by Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Fussel,
Leslie Hart by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hill,
Mrs. Alice Garris by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hill,
and Mrs. Beatrice Gooding Corbett by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hill

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 13)

11:20—Special Music, Host Church
11:25—Message, the Rev. Floyd Burkey
12:00—Benediction
—Adjournment and Lunch

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION
OPENING SESSION
1:30—Devotions, the Rev. L. E. Ambrose
1:40—Welcome Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Charles Spruill
—Response, the Rev. Francis Garner
1:45—President's Message, the Rev. Billie Reynolds
2:05—Enrollment of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches and Delegates
—Bringing Reports and Receiving Blanks
—Announcements
—Offering for Children's Home
—Offertory Prayer
2:10—Suggestions and Information for the Betterment of Sunday Schools

BUSINESS SESSION
2:15—Minutes of Last Convention Read for Information
—Treasurer's Report
—New Business
—Minutes Read and Approved

AFTERNOON WORSHIP
2:30—Special Music, Host Church
2:40—Benediction and Adjournment

LEAGUE CONVENTION
7:30—Devotions, Miss Kathy Oliver
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music, Host Church
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business Period
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Adjournment
—Pianist, Mr. Graig Oliver

Bake Sale

On July 1, the Woman's Auxiliary of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church had a bake sale booth at the Annual Liberty Festival at Pink Hill, North Carolina. All profits made through the sale went to Home Missions. The woman's auxiliary president is Mrs. Hazel Tyndall and the pastor is the Rev. Larry J. Crumpler Jr.



Woman's Auxiliary of Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church (Duplin County) at Bake Sale for Home Missions.

Coming Events . . .

July—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Christian Education Month
July 30—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention
July 30—Mount Olive Sunday in Local Churches
July 30—Central Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Work
August 4, 5—Summer Orientation, Mount Olive College
August 7, 8—Minister's Institute, Mount Olive College
August 14-25—The Third Annual Pastor's Conference, Carolina Bible Institute, Pine Level, North Carolina
August 21—Residence Halls Open, Mount Olive College
August 22—Educational Advising, Mount Olive College
August 23—Board of Directors of Children's Home Meeting, 9 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex
August 23—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 11 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex
August 23—Board of Directors of Retirement Homes Meeting, 1 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex
August 23—Registration, Mount Olive College
August 24—Classes Begin, Mount Olive College
August 25, 26—Piedmont Conference
August 27—Convocation, Mount Olive College

The Third Annual Pastor's Conference

AUGUST 14-25, 1978

at The Carolina Bible Institute

Sessions of the Conference at the Carolina Bible Institute will be held four nights per week for the two weeks: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The sessions will begin at 8:00 p. m. each evening with a study of Paul's Epistle to the Galatians led by the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry. At 8:45 there will be a recess for refreshments which will be provided. Then at 9:00 the different speakers on subjects of special interest to pastors. The speakers and subjects for each evening follows:

Date	Day	Subject	Speaker
14	Monday	The Pastor's Devotional Life	Dr. Burkette Raper
15	Tuesday	The Pastor as A Professional Man	The Rev. Cedric Pierce
17	Thursday	The Pastor Conducts Funerals	The Rev. L. B. Woodall
18	Friday	The Pastor as A Leader	The Rev. F. B. Cherry
21	Monday	The Pastor as an Educator	The Rev. C. F. Bowen
22	Tuesday	The Pastor as A Family Man	The Rev. N. B. Barrow
24	Thursday	The Pastor's Physical Health	Dr. Hal Woodall

Note that on the closing night of the conference we have listed nothing. On this night, we have to have a visiting speaker, yet to be announced. This will be an evangelistic rally when pastors will want to invite their church people and members of their families. Certificates will be given to those who have attended the conference regularly.

Each pastor will be given a looseleaf notebook with the outlines of the material covered on the first night of the conference. The cost of the whole conference including refreshments and the notebooks will be $25. In order that we may have your notebook ready on the first night, please return the form below to us. Do not send any money. We trust you.

My plans are to attend the conference. Have my notebook ready on the very first night.

Name _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Are you pastoring now? _____ If so, Where? _____

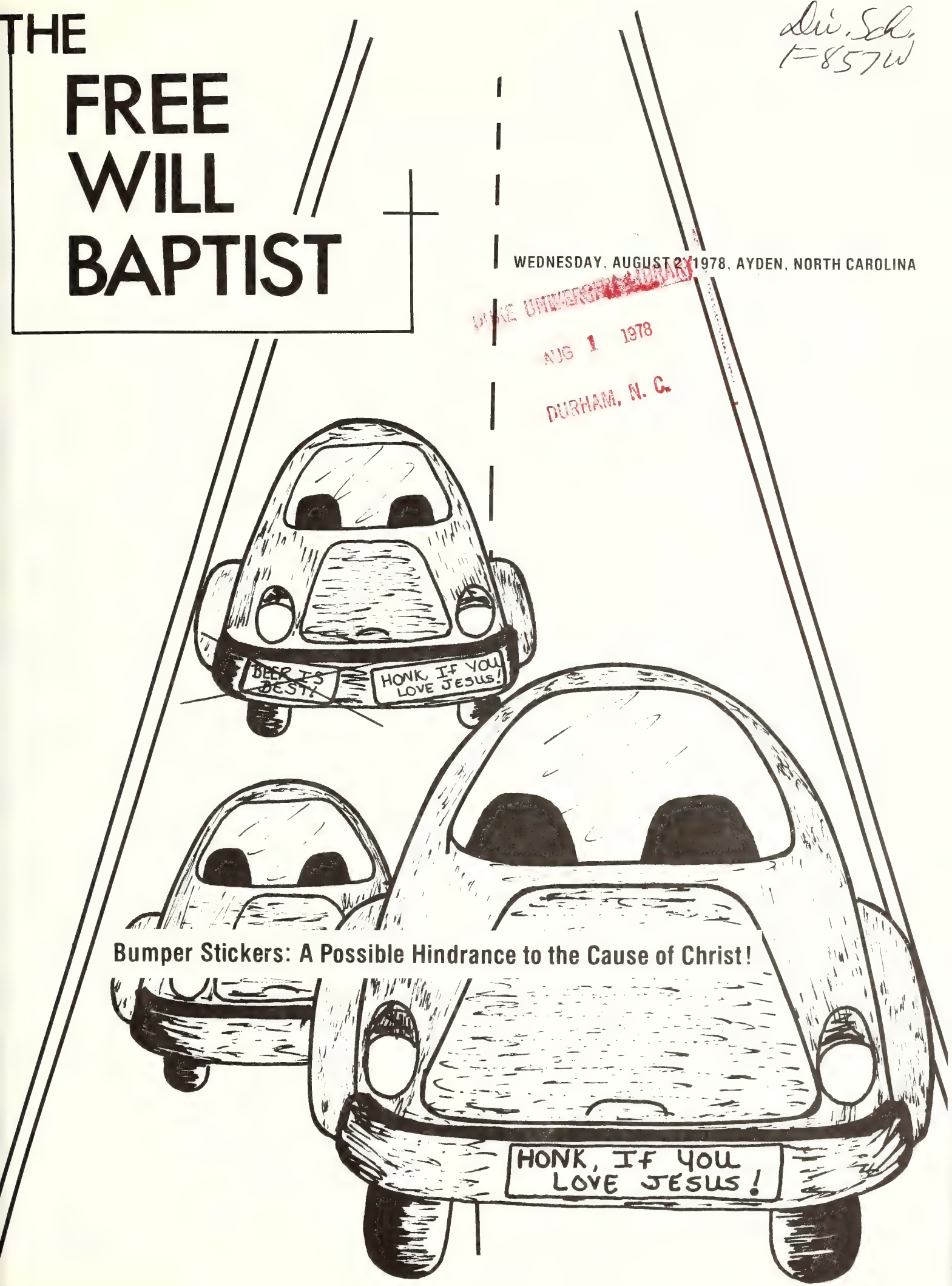
Mail to: Carolina Bible Institute, Box 337, Pine Level, North Carolina 27568

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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Bumper Stickers: A Possible Hindrance to the Cause of Christ!

Cover Drawing by Elizabeth Smith

Editorial . . .

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AUGUST 2, 1978
Volume 93 Number 30

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Smithfield, New Bern, and Wilson, 9:30 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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STOP HONKING UNLESS YOU CAN START LIVING!

Bumper stickers have been popular for as long as I can remember. They used to represent places visited, vacation lands, retreats, unusual sights, adventures, and favorite persons. Then the trend changed a bit, and cute sayings, environmental advice, and safety rules became the thing.

Now there's a trend toward advertising one's Christianity with bumper stickers. You see such sayings as "Honk, if you love Jesus," "My God's not dead, I don't know about yours," "My God's alive—I talked to Him last night," "Christ Is the Answer"; Christian logos; and bold letters announcing one's membership in this or that Christian club.

It is not our aim to discredit the sayings, the affirmations, club memberships, or any witness they bear for Christianity. Neither do we propose to discredit the people who subscribe to the use of bumper stickers to speak their witness. But we can't help but question the sincerity of some.

Probably the most popular of such stickers is the first one mentioned: "Honk, if you love Jesus" (or some paraphrasing of the injunction). I say "popular" because it is the one I, personally, have seen most used (and most abused!). It stands out from the bumper in bold print against a brilliant background. If not unsightly, it is very close to being so—especially when it is stretched haphazardly across the bumper next to another sticker citing "I love beer—in it's my cheer," or some other such pronouncement.

The indiscriminate use of religious stickers along with often distasteful secular ones is not restricted to the young. Mature adults display them just as proudly and loudly. What bothers us most is not the displaying of the stickers but the *conduct* of some of those who exhibit them so flamboyantly.

Racing down the highway at breakneck speeds, running stoplights, slapping on brakes for the sheer fun of it, slinging corners, racing the motor, laughing boisterously, making a public nuisance of oneself, and other similar actions don't give much credence to Christianity. There are too many bumper Christians whose testimony stops there. Personally, I'd rather they remove the sticker if they can't conduct themselves better.

We are certainly not so naive as to believe that everybody takes such stickers seriously. They are supposed to be "cutsie ways" of attracting attention. We do not pretend to believe that every person who puts such a sticker on his bumper does so out of dedication; the novelty of the idea has a reward of its own. And it is conceivable that a lot of people can *ignore* the stickers, the people who display them, and their actions. But I find it difficult.

It seems an outright affront to the dignity of Christ for anybody to advertise his devotion on a car bumper and then create scenes which are diametrically opposed to the Christian way!

I remember being favorably impressed the first time I saw the "Honk" sign; but after seeing it displayed so crudely and so many people bearing it amiss, I soon became repulsed by the whole idea.

I submit that there is nothing really wrong with bearing signs for the Lord. I hasten to add, though, that one must be careful what *kind* of signs he bears for the Lord. I feel certain that the way one lives is the best sign, bumper stickers notwithstanding.

Our advice: *Stop honking unless you can start living.*

by Teresa Duhadaway

MY CALL TO WITNESS

YFA member of
Community Free Will Baptist Church

The Rev. T. C. Farmer, Pastor
Weldon, North Carolina

ROSALINDA Rinker in her book, **You Can Witness with Confidence**, defines a witness as follows: "A Witness to Jesus Christ is one who knows Him and is interested in introducing Him to others." The love of Jesus that we receive when we accept Him as our Saviour compels us to witness. In 2 Corinthians 5:14 we read: "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead." As we realize that people without Christ are dead in their sins, we cannot help but witness of the saving love of Christ.

In Acts 1:8, Jesus commanded His disciples to witness. We are His disciples also and should realize that Jesus is speaking these words to us also. "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

John called Jesus the faithful witness in Revelation 1:5 "And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness. . . ." Jesus sets the example of us. As I think of the life Jesus lived, I think of how that everywhere He went, the words He spoke, even His whole being was a true and faithful witness of His Father in Heaven.

Taking Jesus as our example for life, we will also be true and faithful witnesses of our Father which art in Heaven. A very important way to witness is through our lives. In Romans 12:1, 2 we read: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." As we keep our bodies and lives pure and spotless before unsaved people, Jesus is lifted up. Each time we choose not to listen to bad language and refuse to take part in unholy things we witness to others just how precious Jesus is to us.

We are faithful witnesses each time we attend church services. We witness each time we take part in youth activities. Singing in the youth choir has been a real blessing to me. As we sing songs like "He Is Lord," "Jesus Is a Wonderful Saviour," "Yes He Did" and others, we testify in word and in song of the story of Jesus. The young people of our church enjoy visiting on the bus route. As we give our Saturdays to visit unchurched people, we witness to the importance of Jesus in our lives. I enjoy giving my testimony at church when I have the opportunity. This is a good time to witness to others about what Jesus has done for me. I am thankful that Jesus was willing to come to this world to die for my sins. If He had chosen not to come to finish the plan of salvation, I would have been the most hopeless person in the world.

Just knowing Jesus has prepared a place for me after death makes me want to witness for Him. Not only did He save me but also gave me a Christian mother and father. I am thankful that God has allowed me to have a nice home to live in, food to eat, and clothes to wear. As I think of how good God has been to me, witnessing is only a small way to say thank you to Him.

The results of witnessing are what makes it so important. One of the results is that souls will be won to Jesus. Without Jesus people would have to spend eternity separated from God. In Romans 10:13, 14 we read: "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" It is a great honor to know that God has chosen us to carry the message of salvation for him. In Proverbs 11:30 it says: ". . .he that winneth souls is wise." When we win souls for Jesus; lives are changed, homes are reunited, and enemies become friends. Another result of witnessing is that we receive a great blessing. Just to know that we have been used by God brings a deep satisfaction to us. If we have been blessed of God we should want to pass it on to others. This brings to mind a poem that speaks of this:

Have you had a kindness shown
Pass it on.
Let it travel down the years
Let it wipe another's tears
Till in Heaven the deed appears
Pass it on.
Did you hear a loving world
Pass it on.
Let its music live and grow

Turn the Page

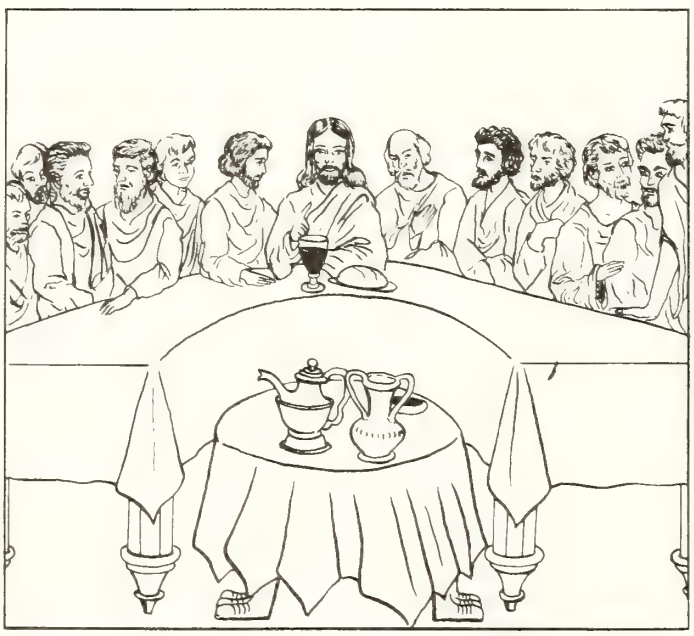
Let it cheer another's woe
You have reaped what others sow
Pass it on.
Be not selfish in the greed
Pass it on.
Look upon thy brother's need
Pass it on.
Live for self, you live in vain
Live for Christ, you live again
Live for Him, with Him reign
Pass it on.

Thinking again of Acts 1:8, I have the power to witness because I have received Jesus as my Saviour. I count it a great privilege to witness about Jesus in Weldon, my hometown. Because of my age, I cannot go to other parts of the world, but wherever God leads me, I must witness for Him.

When I grow up, I would like to be a gospel singer and go to different churches spreading God's wonderful love through song. God blesses us with talents to use for Him. I sing in the choir at church and sometimes my friend, Angela, and I sing together and sometimes we sing solo parts. I enjoy singing for God and it blesses me to realize that my singing is blessing others. My prayer is that whatever I do for God will be a blessing to me and to others.

THE GLASS OF TRUTH

by Ida Wooten Tripp
(Retired School Teacher)
Route 5, Box 306
Greenville, N.C.



Holy Communion

Men have always searched for the fugitive, eternal truth; I wanted to find it, too. Where should I look? Certainly, I must look in the church. I found truth there but not the ultimate truth, not the glass of truth.

I asked the farmer, "What is truth?" "It's right here," he said, "look about you. Look at the fields, ripe with harvest; look at the greening, the growing; look at the dark forest, beckoning you to walk in its shade, to explore its mysteries; look at the rain, the sunshine, nature—balanced and perfect. Why, it's all right here."

"Not quite," my mind whispered, and I went to the city, with its hustling, bustling throngs—the city, throbbing with the song of wheels, the humming factories. "It's here," I thought, but nagging doubts, like birds, darted in and out of my mind.

"Perhaps truth is in the mountain wilderness, unspoiled by humans, undefiled, pure." I wandered there, enthralled by its beauty and perfection, but nowhere did I find the glass of truth.

I had the answer! Truth could surely be found in a hospital. Where else? Where angels of mercy ministered to the suffering, and white-coated physicians healed the sick. Of course! The truth was the glass of medicine that cured all ills. The hospital fell somewhat short of this idyllic perfection; patients died, mercy was not in everyone. The glass of truth was not here.

I searched for truth in the jungle, where life is cheap and expendable; in the desert; in the frozen Arctic wastes; on the sea, where all life began. I searched but did not find.

The mirror—the simple mirror! Surely that was the glass of truth. The mirror would never lie! The mirror would always give me back the truth! Then I gazed into the mirror and saw only a poor distorted, reversed image of myself.

Despairing of finding the glass of truth, I gave up, defeated—the thing I searched for still a will o' the wisp, as fleeting and elusive as the Holy Grail. Idly, I wandered into my little country church and joined in the communion service. As I sat there holding the goblet, a shaft of sunlight beamed through the stained glass of the window, caught the wine with an eerie shadow—a shadow which curled into words. The words shimmered on the surface of the purple liquid: "I am the way, the truth, and the life . . . ." The glass of truth I held in my trembling hand.

"THE CHALLENGE OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL"

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise" (Proverbs 20:1).

Alcohol is a narcotic, even as are hard drugs. Such narcotics are self-administered and are habit forming. The users are aware of this fact. However, most users are of the opinion that they can stop the use whenever they desire. The self-deception of such a practice is pathetic. When the use gets out of control, the addict is hooked, whether his poison be alcohol or other drugs. When control is gone, the usual evaluation is that the victim is to be treated as the subject of disease. The solid fact remains, however, that the disease was self-induced, and its cure still lies at the door of the one who invited the culprit in. There is definitely a difference in the moral responsibility of the person who accidentally becomes the victim of some contagious disease, and the person who knowingly and deliberately bares himself to the inroads of drugs or alcohol addiction. The divine warning has been printed on the label of all sin and all sinful practices. The user is thereby made responsible for any loss that may accrue. This loss is not only identified with the sinner's mind and body, but it also has to do with the owner of that body, namely, the Creator who fashioned it and gave it life. All abuse of the body is sin against God (see 1 Corinthians 6:19). Since the body is designed to be the temple of the Holy Spirit, it is not to be used for unholy conduct. Christians belong to Christ by right of purchase; therefore, they are not their own to do as they please. Freedom to do as one pleases is not freedom, but license. God never did advise man that the feeding of his physical appetites was to be the chief end of life.

Imagine that a man tied a rabid dog on a long tether along a busy street. Scores of passerbys were bitten, and many died. The citizens met, formed a committee and debated solutions for the problem. Finally they voted to build a special hospital to treat persons infected by the rabid dog. The hospital was built and kept full. After some time, however, one man suggested that the dog, the source of all the infections, be killed. "Kill the dog," exclaimed the committee. "Don't you know the owner has always paid his dog taxes? He has a right to keep the dog wherever he wants to as long as he keeps him on a tether."

No one would be so ridiculous as to behave in this manner. And yet we allow the liquor industry to dispense its poison on the busiest streets. Then we build hospitals, jails, and mental institutions to care for the victims. If one should suggest that a better solution would be to strike the curse at its source—destroy the whole industry—he would immediately be shouted down by those who insist, "The industry pays its taxes. As long as it is properly regulated, it has a right to stay in business."

Maybe we cannot kill the dog or tear down the liquor stores, but we can go out and vote against the liquor-by-the-drink bill when it comes to our county.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: Please explain, "And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not. And there went out a fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD" (Leviticus 10:1, 2). What is this strange fire?

Answer: These priests, sons of Aaron, were disobedient to God when they offered their sacrifice with unconsecrated fire. The verse preceding these might help to get the facts. "And there came a fire out from before the LORD, and consumed upon the altar the burnt offering and the fat: which when all the people saw, they shouted, and fell on their faces" (Leviticus 9:24). Compare this with Leviticus 10:1, 2.

When Abraham made his offering fire came from Heaven and consumed it. The Lord had respect unto Abel's offering and probably consumed it in the way Abraham's was consumed with fire from Heaven. He had not respect for Cain's and evidently did not send fire from Heaven to consume it. In the case of Elijah's contest with the prophets of Baal, God showed His respect for Elijah's offering by sending fire from Heaven that not only consumed the offering but also the stones the altar was built of and the water poured around the altar, also the dust. When fire was placed on the altar by the Levitical priest it was to be done according to all instructions that God had given concerning the handling. Like Cain, Nadab, and Abihu carelessly used different or unconsecrated fire. The consequence was the death by God's judgment of the disobedient priest and a people made to fear God.

George H. Sandison has thoughts worth our consideration in answering a similar question in his book **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered:**

"The 'strange fire' mentioned in Leviticus 10:1, 2 is understood to mean that Nadab and Abihu instead of taking fire into their censers from the brazen altar, took common fire which had not been consecrated, and thus were guilty of sacrilege. They had witnessed the descent of the miraculous fire from the cloud (see Chapter 9:24), and they were under solemn obligation to use that fire which was specially appropriated to the altar service. But instead of doing so, they became careless, showing want of faith and lamentable irreverence, and their example, had it been permitted to pass unpunished, would have established an evil precedent. The fire that slew them issued from the most holy place, which is the accepted interpretation of the words, 'from the Lord.' Besides, the two young priests had already been commanded (or warned) not to do the thing they did (Verse 2). They had undertaken to perform acts which belonged to the high priest alone, and even to intrude into the innermost sanctuary. See the warnings in Exodus 19:22 and Leviticus 8:35."

All that is said concerning Israel's disobedience in the Bible is recorded for our admonition. "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come" (1 Corinthians 10:11)



SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

Scripture Reading—Psalm 4:5

AN INDIAN GIRL'S PRAYER

A teacher among the Sioux Indians relates the following touching incident:

An Indian baby was dying. She lay in her father's arms, while near by stood another little girl a few years older, who was a Christian.

"Father," said the little girl, "little sister is going to Heaven tonight. Let me pray." As she said this, she kneeled at her father's knee, and this little prayer fell from her childish lips:

"Father God, little sister is coming to see You tonight. Please open the door softly and let her in. Amen."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we pray for our relatives and friends? We should!

MONDAY, AUGUST 7

Scripture Reading—John 1:10

WHO ARE THE HEATHEN?

A Chinaman applied for a position as cook in a western family. The lady of the house and several other members of her family were members of a fashionable church, and the Chinaman was questioned closely.

"Do you drink whisky?"

"No, I Christian man."

"Do you play cards?"

"No, I Christian man."

He was employed and gave great satisfaction. He did his work well, was honest, upright, and respectful. After some weeks the lady gave a euchre party and wine was served. John Chinaman was called in to serve refreshments, which he did without such comment. But the next morning he waited on the lady and told her he wanted to quit work.

"Why, what is the matter?" she inquired.

John replied, "I Christian man. I tell you so. I no work for heathen American."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Sometimes we forget that we too can sin, but we always see the sins of other people.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

Scripture Reading—Matthew 6:24

THE BAT'S MISTAKE

"No man can serve two masters" (Matthew 6:24). Aesop speaks in one of his fables about a time when the beasts and fowl were engaged in war. The bat tried to belong to both parties. When the birds were victorious, he would wing around telling that he was a bird; when the beasts won a fight he would walk around them assuring them that he was a beast. But soon his hypocrisy was discovered and he was rejected by both the beasts and the birds. He had to hide himself, and now only by night can he appear openly. One is our Master, even Christ. Serve Him!

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are not supposed to serve two masters. We are to love and serve God, but hate and not serve Satan.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

Scripture Reading—John 17:9

LILY BOUND

A traveler tells of a peculiar experience that happened to him as he voyaged on the coast of South America. While his ship lay at anchor it became lily-bound. The growth of vegetation in that climate is very rapid, and during a few calm days the vessel became the center of a great floating island of beautiful lilies. But the beauty was soon forgotten in the danger. They accumulated so rapidly that the chains became entangled, and yielding to the flow of the tide, the flowery mass caused the vessel to drag her anchor, and to drift in a wrong direction. Eventually the crew had a long and tedious task with hatchets to release their ship from the imprisoning flowers—a picture of the embarrassing effects of eminent success. How often has an accumulation of the gay and golden flowers of opulence and pleasure accounted for the fatal drifting of noble lives!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have we let the things of beauty take control of our lives? We should always let God have control of our lives.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

Scripture Reading—Ecclesiastes 8:14

EARTH'S BLESSING IS TOIL

This is the gospel of labor, ring it, ye bells of the Kirk;
The Lord of love came down from above to live with the men who work.
This is the rose He planted here in the thorn-cursed soil;
Heaven is blest with perfect rest, but the blessing of earth is toil.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God said that man was to labor and work to make a living. He is not supposed to be lazy.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

Scripture Reading—Matthew 28:19

ABOUT MASTER'S BUSINESS

Edwin Booth was one of America's greatest actors. Dr. Houghton was the rector of "The Little Church Around the Corner," to which Booth and other

actors belonged. Said Booth to Dr. Houghton one day, "Doctor, you never use our tickets and come see us play. Don't you like us?" "Mr. Booth, of course I love you all," replied Dr. Houghton, "but if you were taken seriously ill, I hope you would at once send for me. Where would you like the messenger to find me, here in my church about my Master's business, or in a seat in some theater?" "I would like him to find you here, Doctor,—I understand."

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we are called of God, we are to be about our Father's business spreading the gospel into all the world.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 14:5

SALVATION ABROAD A TRANSPORT

There were 7,000 marines and sailors sailing home through the blue Pacific, abroad the U.S.S. *Wakefield*. On a hatch at the stern were seven born-again Christians, including myself, lustily singing good old hymns and gospel songs. Men swarmed around us until they heard our voices raised in praise to our Saviour; then they scattered, scoffing as they left. But the Lord knew of one boy there who wanted this message. He came to us and asked for a match. We had no match, but each in turn spoke of the Light of the world who had brought each of us out of darkness into His marvelous light. After the testimonies were given, we extended the invitation to this boy, and then we all prayed for him. God melted that boy's heart, and he fell on my shoulder, shedding tears of repentance for his sins. Our little meeting ended that night with not seven but eight fellows singing:

"Thank You, Lord, for saving my soul;
Thank You, Lord, for making me whole;
Thank You, Lord for giving to me
Thy great salvation, so rich and free."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Wasn't it wonderful that the seven men's stories could help tell another boy about Jesus, so he too could be saved! God will save His people, if we but trust and believe in Him.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

ATTRIBUTES OF A CHRISTIAN

by Joyce Tilghman

L	J	A	B	S	C	D	S	S	E	N	K	E	E	M
H	O	N	E	S	T	E	D	F	A	S	T	K	U	E
F	Y	N	F	E	G	R	H	I	J	K	L	I	N	S
O	M	S	G	N	S	M	U	O	P	Q	R	N	D	S
R	S	E	F	S	H	S	P	E	A	C	E	D	E	E
B	T	C	O	U	U	U	E	G	F	V	W	N	R	N
E	E	U	R	O	M	F	X	N	O	U	Y	E	S	L
A	C	R	G	E	B	A	F	I	I	Z	L	S	T	U
R	N	I	I	T	L	I	A	E	B	L	C	S	A	F
I	A	T	V	H	E	T	L	V	R	D	O	E	N	R
N	R	Y	I	G	N	H	F	O	Y	I	G	H	D	E
G	U	H	N	I	E	I	J	L	Y	C	N	K	I	Y
L	S	M	G	R	S	N	O	P	Q	A	R	G	N	A
R	S	S	W	I	S	D	O	M	T	U	L	E	G	R
S	A	V	E	D	S	I	N	N	E	R	V	W	M	P

The words will be found horizontally, perpendicularly, and diagonally, and some are spelled backwards.

Mercy
Kindness
Humbleness
Meekness
Longsuffering
Forbearing
Forgiving
Love
Honest
Peace
Wisdom
Assurance
Joy
Faith
Loyal
Righteousness
Stedfast
Prayerfulness
Saved Sinner
Security
True
Understanding
Holiness

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel"

mission work...

at home and abroad.



Joseph Ingram
Foreign Missions
Director—Treasurer
P. O. Box 979
Goldsboro, N. C. 27530

Taylor Hill
Home Missions
Director—Treasurer
1207 Arsenal Ave.
Fayetteville, N. C. 28305

HOME MISSIONS YEARLY REPORT

July 1, 1977—June 30, 1978

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle Union Meeting	$ 93.00
Albemarle District Auxiliary Convention	256.18
Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	17.00
Cape Colony Mission	24.37
Corinth	31.31
Free Union (Beaufort County)	121.00
Hickory Chapel	592.42
Malachi's Chapel	197.41
Mount Tabor	100.00
Mount Zion	200.00
Plymouth, First	100.00
Saint Paul	223.83
Shiloh	404.41
Sidney	599.68
Trinity	50.00
Union Chapel	668.22
Total	$3,678.83

CAPE FEAR

Bethel	$ 35.00
Cape Fear Conference	166.38
Cape Fear Youth Fellowship	755.00
Casey's Chapel	110.00
Catalpa Mission	100.00
Daly's Chapel	151.70
Eastwood	110.00
Goldsboro, First	1,344.05
Haymount Mission	623.50
Hopewell	750.06
Johnston Union	328.90
Lee's Chapel	405.27
Mount Olive	10.00
Oak Grove	110.00
Palmer Memorial	393.27
Pleasant Grove	310.00
Powhatan	20.00
Riverside	610.00
Robert's Grove	170.00
St. Mary's Grove	100.00
Shady Grove	96.95
Smyrna	60.00
Smithfield, First	348.75
Steven's Chapel	100.00
Tee's Chapel	621.00
Victory Mission	243.81
Wooten's Chapel	209.12
Yelverton's Grove	205.00
Total	$8,487.76

CENTRAL

Aspen Grove	$ 301.04
Ayden	205.00
Bethany	480.54
Black Jack	1,278.36
Central Conference Missions	600.00
Central Conference Layman's League	138.99
Community	60.00
Daniels Chapel	1,082.00
Dawson's Grove	32.00
Dilda's Grove	40.00
Edgewood	366.10
Elm Grove	520.26
First Union	300.00
Free Union (Greene County)	69.59
Friendship (Greene County)	1,474.23
Grimsley	367.55
Greenville, First	748.40
Gum Swamp	447.65
Harrell's Chapel	910.00
Hickory Grove	53.12
Howell Swamp	75.00
Hugo	500.00
Hull Road	848.90
Kings Cross Roads	205.58
LaGrange	46.00
Little Creek (Greene County)	24.50
Marlboro	251.00
Old Saints Delight	20.00
Ormondsville	185.00
Otter's Creek	211.32
Owen's Chapel	365.00
Peace	358.87
Piney Grove	66.40
Pleasant Hill	10.00
Reedy Branch	529.45
Rocky Mount, First	264.00
Rose of Sharon	70.00
Rose Hill	500.00
Saratoga	235.43
Second Union Sunday School	100.00
Spring Branch	102.50
Sweet Gum Grove	68.50
Tarboro, First	1,269.50
Walnut Creek	180.00
Watery Branch	30.00
Winterville	1,423.97
Williamston, First	148.75
Total	$17,564.50

EASTERN

Antioch	$ 300.00
Arapahoe	678.48
Bethel (Pamlico County)	160.00
Bethlehem	105.00
Beulaville	238.13
Bridgeton	420.50
British Chapel	6.00
Cabin	50.00
Carteret County Union Meeting	65.00
Christian Chapel	330.00
Core Creek	255.00
Core Point	45.00
Crab Point	305.86
Croatan	60.00
Davis	122.58
Deep Run	182.50
Dublin Grove	105.00
Faith	306.00
Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention	43.00
Fifth Union Meeting	50.00
Folkstone	490.00
Four Oaks, First	25.00
Friendship (Jones County)	71.72
Gethsemane	50.00
Grant's Chapel	100.00
Gray Branch	700.00
Holly Springs	4,312.06
Indian Springs	22.50
Jackson Heights	298.12
Juniper Chapel	470.00
Kinston, First	321.45
Lanier's Chapel	115.00
Macedonia	360.00
May's Chapel	190.00
Moseley's Creek	40.00
Mount Zion	55.00
Mount Zion (Pamlico County)	136.00
New Bethlehem	5.00
New Haven	100.00
Northeast	63.00
Oak Grove	57.00
Oriental	18.66

Otway (1/2 to Foreign Missions)	25.00
Pearsall Chapel	301.00
Pilgrim's Home	132.00
Pilgrim's Rest	200.02
Piney Grove	43.17
Rock of Zion	339.27
Rooty Branch	50.00
Russell's Creek	86.00
Saints Delight	627.50
St. Mary's	431.41
Sandy Plain	708.68
Sarecta	30.00
Smith's New Home	150.00
Snow Hill	250.00
Sound View	742.28
Spring Hope	4.00
Third Union District	90.00
Trent	50.00
Wardens Grove	62.92
Woodrow, First	75.00
Woman's Auxiliary District	47.54
Wintergreen	609.00
White Oak	15.00
Whaley's Chapel	50.00
Westside	16.00
Welcome Home	350.71
Total	$17,315.06

PEE DEE

Beaverdam	$ 595.82
Cypress Creek	131.00
Oak Grove	373.81
Pee Dee District Auxiliary Convention	60.00
Pee Dee Association	238.00
Pee Dee Number 1	34.00
White Oak	18.00
Total	$ 1,450.63

PIEDMONT

Bethany	$ 26.77
Cathedral	40.00
East Rockingham	71.07
Heritage Mission	246.03
Highland Pines	105.00
House of Prayer	25.00
Piedmont Conference	100.00
Piedmont District Auxiliary Convention	12.50
Total	$ 626.37

WESTERN

Barnes Hill	$ 175.00
Branch Chapel	600.00
Calvary	225.00
Durham, First	40.00
Elwood Lane	111.50
Everett's Chapel	677.92
Fellowship	300.00
First District Sunday School Convention	50.00
First Union	500.00
Flood's Chapel	64.25
Free Spirit Mission	90.00
Free Union (Nash County)	402.38
Fremont, First	1,216.00
Friendship	375.00
Holly Springs	415.00
Kenly	326.62
Little Rock	303.00
Living Waters	100.00
Marsh Swamp	323.60
Micro	125.95
Mount Zion	243.80
New Sandy Hill	50.00
Oak Grove	360.32
People's Chapel	476.33
Piney Grove	303.00
Pine Level	370.00
Pleasant Hill	478.39
Pleasant Grove	1,754.61
Pleasant Plain	147.26
Rains Crossroads	227.00
Rock Springs	10.00
Rosebud	150.00
St. Mary's	1,223.53
Second Union	131.50
Selma	81.20
Sherron Acres	900.00
Spring Hill	756.50
Stancil's Chapel	103.00
Stoney Creek	500.00
Stony Hill	1.20
Trinity	510.00
Unity	301.00
Unity (Wilson County)	50.00
Union Grove (Wayne County)	107.00
Wilson, First	750.00
Western Conference	200.00
West Hillsborough Mission	100.00
Western District Auxiliary Convention	40.89
Total	$16,747.75

INDIVIDUALS

Anonymous	$ 800.00
Albertson, Virginia	2.00
Aycock, J. R.	300.00
Bedford, Guy	25.00
Brown, Jerry	50.00
Carroll, M. G.	1.00
Case, Mrs. R. R.	100.00
Coates, Joyce	10.00
Coats, Rev. C. M.	45.00
Creech, Sharlene	48.00
Daniels, Vernon	35.00
Delony, Gregg	.35
Duncan, Lester Jr.	80.00
Eason Henry	5.00
Faucette, Rev. Graham	50.00
Fowler, Mrs. Edna	100.00
Furlough, John M. Sr.	100.00
Grant, Leonard	2.00
Haddock, Debra	1.00
Harrell, John T. Sr.	1.00
Harrell, Kinchen O.	50.00
Harris, Dennis I. Sr.	50.00
Harris, Almeta	20.00
Hawley, Rev. and Mrs. Leslie	5.00
Jones, Deborah	1.00
Jones, Eula	30.00
Jones, Fred Jr.	2.00
Jones, Nellie	25.00
Jones, Theresa	1.00
Kennedy, Percy	250.00
McLamb, Thomas	5.00
Mayo, W. J.	5.00
Norris, Billy	2.00
Powell, Audry Stroud	3.00
Riley, Dianne	20.00
Sasser, Ada B.	100.00
Spencer, Rev. Grayson	100.00
Talton, Lassiter	7.50
Taylor, O. B.	225.00
Thigpen, Earl	26.00
Thigpen, W. E.	24.00
Turnage, Mrs. R. G.	10.00
Waters, Elizabeth	1.00
Williams, Ola Mae	5.00
Weston, Mr. Marvin	150.00
Woodall, Johnnie	5.00
Yates, Joseph	270.00
Total	$ 3,147.85

OUT-OF-STATE

Virginia Beach Church, Virginia	$ 150.00
Zion Church, Blakely, Georgia	200.00
Total	$ 350.00

MEMORIAL FUNDS

Johnny Mercer Memorial Fund by Cabin Church	$ 120.00
Memory of David and Lydia Hathaway by Mr. and Mrs. Elijah M. Howell	25.00
Total	$ 145.00

OTHERS

Cash Offerings Mission Rally	$ 226.00
North Carolina State Auxiliary	138.77
North Carolina State Auxiliary Christian Service Fund	408.91
Total Contributions	$70,328.09

DISBURSEMENTS

Missions—Missionaries	$45,278.24
Director's Salary and Expenses	5,350.00
All Mission Travel	835.70
Payments on Loans	2,969.16
Utilities and Rent	1,576.04

(Continued on Page 10)

MISSIONS

(Continued from Page 9)

Bookkeeping and Secretarial Expenses	3,990.00
Printing, Postage and Office Supplies	991.87
Miscellaneous	677.26
Earmarked for Foreign Missions	12.50
Deaf Camp at Eagles Nest	650.00
Total	$62,330.77
Balance forward July 1, 1977	$ 3,307.30
Total income for Year	70,328.09
	$73,635.39
Less disbursements	62,330.77
Balance on hand July 1, 1978	$11,304.62

SUMMER CAMP FOR DEAF CHILDREN Sponsored by Home Missions Department

by Taylor Hill



Summer Camp for Deaf Children

On the week of July 4, we ventured into a new field of service. A summer camp for deaf children was sponsored by our Home Missions and Church Extension Department at Eagles Nest Campground near Mount Olive.

There were twenty-four deaf children who came from all over the state and an ample number of trained workers who gladly contributed a week of service. It was considered to be a great success.

We believe that this is just the beginning of a badly needed service for deaf children. It was a first-time experience for most of the children; they expressed great joy and appreciation for the camp; in fact, some of them cried when it was time to leave. At least one child accepted Christ during the week.



Mrs. Dale Albertson (left) and Mrs. Taylor Hill (right) at Deaf Camp.

We can thank the Rev. and Mrs. Dale Albertson of the Free Spirit Mission of Wilson for taking on the responsibilities of directing the camp; they did an outstanding job. It is hoped that this can be an annual event and another field of service that we Free Will Baptists can offer to mankind and to our Lord. For more information you may contact Home Missions and Church Extension Director Taylor Hill, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305, phone 485-3980; or the camp directors, the Rev. and Mrs. Dale Albertson, Box 185, Black Creek, North Carolina 27813, phone 291-5331.

HOME MISSIONS BIBLE SCHOOL A SUCCESS



Youth Class at Haymount Mission in Fayetteville

Our Home Missions Bible schools are reporting great success this summer. It was a first time for Charlotte because of the lack of facilities. They really enjoying their new building.

Haymount and Catalpa Missions of Fayetteville and Victory Mission of Hope Mills all report great success. Victory of Hope Mills reported eleven new converts for the week.

Churches and Ministers Available

The People's Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Elm City, is looking for a full-time pastor. Anyone interested please contact Mr. Edward M. Bass, 437 Old Mill Road, Rocky Mount, North Carolina 27801, or phone 443-2841; Mrs. Beatrice Winstead, Route 2, Box 414 Elm City, North Carolina 27822, or by phoning 236-4445.

The Rev. Charles W. Sugg announces that he is available for pastoral services. He may be contacted by writing the Rev. Charles W. Sugg, Route 2, Box 609N, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530; or by phoning 735-8924 (day) or 735-4489 (night).

The Rev. Ronnie Lovin announces that he is now available for evangelistic or supply work. Mr. Lovin is an ordained minister in good standing with the Piedmont Conference. He is a member of the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, where the Rev. Walter Carter is pastor. Mr. Lovin's address is Route 3, Box 471-A, Rockingham, North Carolina 28379. His phone number is (919) 895-2134.

The Rev. E. Floyd Smith wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral work. His address is the Rev. E. Floyd Smith, Route 3, Box 199, Selma, North Carolina 27576. His telephone number is 965-5406.

NOTE

The cover photo last week was taken by the Rev. Walter Reynolds of the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville. We regret this omission of the name.

INFORMATION FOR 1979 YEARBOOK

In the event some church clerks failed to receive the following letter and form to be completed, please fill in the information requested, clip, and mail the form to the Press. (**This applies only to those who did not receive the form by mail.**)

Dear Church Clerk:

We are enclosing the form to be used for the 1979 Yearbook "Church Directory." Please check the listing of your church in the 1978 book, and make any changes necessary to have your church report correctly entered. Even if there are no changes from last year, please send the form back to us stating the information is the same as before. (Be sure to list the church and conference on the form.)

We prefer that the information be typed or printed so as to prevent any possible mistakes.

Your cooperation in furnishing this information is greatly appreciated.
Respectfully,
Walter Reynolds
Manager

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1978

Name of Church _____ **Conference** _____

Location _____

_____

Pastor's Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Zip** _____

Clerk's Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Zip** _____

Treasurer's Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Zip** _____

S. S. Superintendent's Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Zip** _____

FWBL Director's Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Zip** _____

W. A. President's Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Zip** _____

Layman's League President's Name _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Zip** _____

Others _____ **Phone** _____

Address _____ **Zip** _____

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

St. Claire Bible Class

For August 13

A READY WITNESS

Lesson Text: Acts 26:1-3, 19-29
Memory Verse: 2 Timothy 4:2

I. INTRODUCTION

A small boy who was promised a watch for his birthday could think and talk about nothing else. Morning, noon, and night he talked about the promised gift. The day before his birthday, his parents, worn out by constant reminders, told him that if he mentioned the gift again they would not give it to him. The lad's contribution to the family devotions that evening was the memory verse he had selected for the day, "What I say unto you I say unto all, Watch" (Mark 13:37).

Paul was like this boy in one respect: one thought was in his mind, one word upon his lips. Paul's word was **Christ.** Everyone must hear about his wonderful Lord. For Christ had thrown himself across the path of persecution and stopped Paul's mad march of suffering and death. Christ had promised him a crown of righteousness; but men gave Paul chains as a token of their ingratitude for his sacrificial service.

Our last lesson closed with Paul's appeal to Caesar and Festus' granting of his request (Acts 25:11, 12). Right after this there is an account of a state visit to Caesarea by "king Agrippa." This was Herod Agrippa II, the only son of Herod Agrippa I who had murdered the Apostle James. Herod Agrippa II was king of a district in the north and northeast of Palestine. Since Festus was uncertain as to just how to write up Paul's case when he sent him to Rome, he determined to let Paul speak before Agrippa and present his defense. This was not really a trial, in a strict sense, but actually a hearing for the information of both Festus and Agrippa.

After the royal party was ushered into the hall with great pomp, Paul was brought into the midst of the assembly. Festus addressed the king and all the assembled dignitaries, explaining his reasons for this hearing. When he concluded, Agrippa turned to Paul and gave him permission to speak in his own defense. Our lesson text begins at this point.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Lord spoke to Ananias in Damascus and advised him of the divine purpose of Saul's (Paul) ministry. He said, ". . . he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel" (Acts 9:15). Notice that he said Paul would witness to kings. Today's lesson is an example of Paul's witness to kings.

B. If any one word could characterize Paul's response to every call of God it would be "ready." From the very beginning of his experience with Christ, he was ready to witness for him in every circumstance. He said to the Romans, "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also" (Romans 1:14, 15). He would have that opportunity, through the written word (his epistle to the Romans) and in person (Acts 28:16-31).

C. Sharing one's redemptive experience with another is the Christian's highest and most responsible privilege. It is at least a duty, at best a privilege. To witness to others is to fulfill one's purpose for being a Christian; it is how we meet the command of our Lord and become subservient to His holy will. Paul's watchword might have been "ready"; ours must be also—ready to suffer for Him, ready to serve Him, and ready at all times to witness for Him.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. According to the law, it was not necessary for Paul to defend himself before Agrippa, but Paul saw it as an opportunity to witness for Christ in a place where a witness was needed. He was anxious to tell his story to Agrippa —Paul was a "Ready Witness."

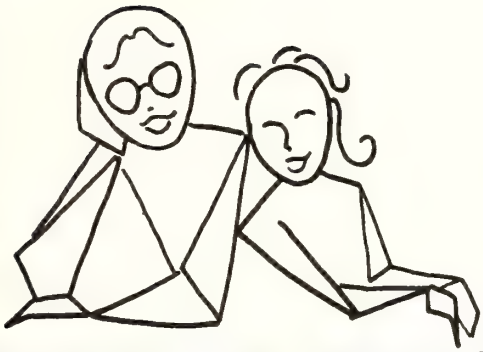
B. Paul related his personal testimony to Agrippa. This is the third time that the account of his conversion is told in the Book of Acts. Paul's testimony gives us a pattern for our testimonies. First he told about the kind of person he was before he was saved. Then he told how his conversion took place. Finally, he told about his life after he was saved. Not everyone experiences what Paul did, but every personal testimony should have the same three parts.

C. When Paul fell down on the Damascus Road, he was not stricken by a heat stroke, nor did he have an epileptic seizure. He was stopped by the Spirit of God. This experience shows what happens when a sinner surrenders to the Lord and is saved. First, he is able to see and understand things that he could not see before. This is divine illumination. Second, his sins are forgiven, which means he is delivered from his past. Then, his life is transformed, which means that he will be different in the future.

D. Did Paul know that he was going toward his death in Rome? Some argue that he did, others say he did not. There seems to be no real reason for believing that he did, but Paul knew that the enemies of the gospel were out to kill him. Surely, he must have been convinced that sooner or later they would succeed.

E. Psychologists tell us that some persons are intense personalities. Paul was such a person. Before his conversion, he was very intense in his persecution of the church; after his conversion, he was very intense in

(Continued on Page 16)



story corner

A WOMAN WINS THE BATTLE

TODAY we continue with the battles the Israelites had to fight while they were taking possession of the land promised to them by God.

Joshua was leading the Jews against the people called the Amorites. During the battle, God decided to help the Jews a little and He sent large hailstones. This hail fell on the heads of the Amorites so large that they killed them.

The battle was still raging, and Joshua saw that night was coming. He knew that if they did not win the battle before night it would give the enemy a chance to rest and gather together the rest of its men. It would also give them a chance to plan what they would do to defeat the Jews. Joshua knew that the enemy was almost beaten. It would not be a hard thing for the Jewish armies to do if night did not come just then. So Joshua looked up into the heavens and commanded, "Sun stand thou still!" Wonder of wonders, the sun did stand still!

The sun stood right where it was for almost another whole day. Night held off to give the Jews a chance to defeat the Amorites. Of course, God was the One who caused the night to stay away. He heard Joshua and knew why he wanted more sunlight. God granted Joshua's command. The Israelites won the battle because the enemy did not have the advantage of night to rest and plan.

During the battle, five of the enemy kings hid in a cave. Joshua and his men found them there. Instead of taking time out to go in and capture them, they rolled great rocks in front of the opening to the cave and left them there until the battle was over; then they came back and got them out. They hanged them from five trees. At night they took them down and buried them in the cave where they had been hidden.

Long after Joshua had died, Israel was ruled by a woman. They were still fighting battles. God was still helping them.

During one of the battles while Israel was judged by the prophetess, Deborah; the battle was against a commander named Sisera. The Jews were winning the battle and Sisera was beginning to be afraid that they would capture him and kill him. He fled from the battle. While he was running away, he became very tired. He was passing the tent of a man that he thought was a friend, Heber, the Kenite. He stopped for a rest.

Heber's wife, Jael, invited him in. She said, "Do not be afraid."

He went into the tents and lay down to rest. He called Jael to come and get him some water. She brought him some milk instead; then she covered him with a blanket.

He said to her, "Stand there in the door while I sleep. If anyone asks you if you have seen a man here, say that you have not."

When she was sure that he was very soundly asleep, she slipped into the tent where he was. She had a hammer and a huge nail that her husband used in putting up the tent. She placed the nail against his head; then, lifting the big hammer, she drove it into his temples. She nailed him to the ground. Then he died; and when the battle was over, the Israelites found him.

These are only a few of the times when God helped Israel in their battles. If you would like to read about more of them, they are found in many of the books of the Old Testament.

Let us review for a moment some of these we have studied.

The first was about the battle of Jericho. God made the walls of the city fall when the priest blew on the trumpets and the people shouted; then the Israelites could enter and destroy the city.

The second was the battle of Ai. The armies of Israel were defeated at first because of the disobedience of one person. When that person had paid for his sin, the armies could again be victorious.

Third, we learned about God sending the hailstones on the heads of the Amorites and killing some of them, and Joshua calling upon the sun to stand still. It did for another whole day and the battle was won for Israel.

The last battle was won by a woman. Jael nailed the head of the king, Sisera, to the ground and won the battle for Israel.

God promised the Children of Israel that this wonderful land of Canaan would be theirs, but they had to fight and work for it. God promises us that wonderful things shall be ours, but He expects us to work for them and fight for them if it is necessary. He will help us, just as He helped the Israelites; but He requires that we love Him and obey Him at all times.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**



MEMORIAL GIFTS

APRIL 1, 1978—JUNE 30, 1978
TOTAL: $714

GIVEN BY:	IN MEMORY OF:
Loma W. Edens	Joe Andrew Hartsfield
M. R. Hobbs	
Janice Gaines	
Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hartsfield	
Maurice H. Ennett	
Mildred Brewer	
M. J. Hobbs	
Mr. and Mrs. P. K. Mills	
Flavion J. Hartsfield	
R. A. Hartsfield Jr.	
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St. Mary's (New Bern) Auxiliary #1	Olivia B. Boyette
Fremont Free Will Baptist Church Members	Tessie Windham
Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Baker	Dana and Wiley Davis

HONORARIUM GIFTS

APRIL 1, 1978—JUNE 30, 1978
TOTAL: $90

GIVEN BY:	IN HONOR OF:
Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Pittman	Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey
Bill Magee	Mr. H. W. Hudnell

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS

June, 1978
TOTAL: $13,426.10

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Belhaven	$ 50.00
Gum Neck	100.00
Mount Tabor	118.70
TOTAL	$ 268.70

BLUE RIDGE

Cedar Hill	$ 19.06
TOTAL	$ 19.06

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Goldsboro	$ 30.00
Johnston Union	263.45
Lee's Chapel	359.74
Robert's Grove	275.00
Shady Grove	100.00
Yelverton Grove	125.12
TOTAL	$1,153.31

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 217.00
Ayden	305.00
Bethany	84.70
Black Jack	305.00
Community	32.50
Daniels Chapel	40.00
Dilda's Grove	245.97
Edgewood	5.00
Free Union	464.81
Friendship	110.12
Greenville	235.00
Grimsley	221.00
Gum Swamp	200.00
Hugo	110.00
King's Cross Roads	109.81
Marlboro	25.00
Ormondsville	110.00
Peace	49.00
Piney Grove (Pitt)	24.00
Reedy Branch	10.00
Rose Hill	368.49
Spring Branch	75.00
Tarboro	375.00
Watery Branch	15.00
Winterville	318.47
TOTAL	$4,055.87

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	$ 300.00

Arapahoe	500.00
British Chapel	197.00
Cabin	150.00
Core Creek	93.00
Core Point	48.00
Deep Run	105.00
Crab Point	15.00
Dublin Grove	232.58
Friendship	72.15
Gethsemane	55.00
Gray Branch	425.00
Hillsberry	50.00
Holly Springs	50.00
Juniper Chapel	200.00
Kinston	13.00
Lanier's Chapel	10.00
Macedonia	100.00
Mount Zion	100.00
Third Union District	50.00
New Bethlehem	111.50
New Haven	130.19
Northeast	51.57
Oak Grove	5.00
Oriental	27.96
Pearsall Chapel	150.00
Rock of Zion	69.25
Saints Delight	223.00
St. Mary's	30.00
Vanceboro	200.00
Spring Hope	50.00
Whaley's Chapel	240.00
Wintergreen	500.00
TOTAL	$4,555.10

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Beaverdam	$ 25.00
Emerson	179.90
Oak Grove	111.23
White Oak	135.00
TOTAL	$ 451.21

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Baptist Road Cathedral	$ 25.00
East Rockingham	79.00
TOTAL	$ 104.00

ROCK FISH CONFERENCE

Mount Moriah	$ 3.00
TOTAL	$ 3.00

TOE RIVER CONFERENCE

Roaring Creek	$ 53.78
TOTAL	$ 53.78

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Barnes Hill	$ 207.00
Branch Chapel	545.60
Everett Chapel	47.94
Kenly	110.00
Marsh Swamp	118.00
Milbournie	112.50

(Continued on Page 16)

MOC

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REMINDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Student Orientation—Incoming freshmen and transfer students will be attending an Orientation Session at Mount Olive College on Friday and Saturday, August 4, 5.

Registration begins at 8:30 a. m. at the Residence Halls on campus.

Ministers' Institute—The annual Ministers' Institute will be on Monday and Tuesday, August 7, 8. All meetings will be in Room 115 of the Henderson Building.

Registration will begin Monday at 9:30 a. m. All ministers are invited to participate. For more information, contact: Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; (919) 658-2502.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE NIGHT CLASSES FOR FALL SEMESTER

Night classes for the fall semester at Mount Olive College will begin Monday and Tuesday, August 31—September 1.

Monday night courses include: Introduction to Data Processing and Public Speaking.

Tuesday night courses include: Introduction to Psychology, American Literature, and Real Estate.

All classes will meet in the Henderson Building from 7 p. m. to 10 p. m. Each course carries three semester hours of credit. Registration will be open through the first night of class.

For more information, contact: Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; (919) 658-2502.

DR. RAPER NAMED IN BOOK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, has been named in the fortieth edition of WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA.

Only three in ten thousand Americans are included in the two-volume publication that is most popularly used as a reference in public and private libraries.

The listing includes a biographical sketch of birth, family, and all major professional and civic awards and positions held. The publication is updated yearly.

ANNUAL MINISTERS' INSTITUTE SCHEDULED AUGUST 7, 8

The annual Ministers' Institute sponsored by Mount Olive College is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, August 7, 8.

(Continued on Page 16)

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 15)

All meetings will be held in Room 115 of the Henderson Building. Registration opens at 9:30 a. m. on August 7. Pre-registration is requested by Director Frank R. Harrison at Mount Olive College (919) 658-2502

Several ministers from eastern North Carolina will serve as instructors for a wide variety of courses to be offered.

The program for Monday will include the following topics: "The Need for Training Church Members" to be taught by the Rev. Adrian Grubbs of Deep Run; "Subjects and Resources for Training Church Members" by the Rev. DeWayne Eakes of Lucama; "Structures and Methods for Church Membership Training Programs" by a team of the Revs. Chris Singleton of Beulaville, Clarence Bowen of Goldsboro, Harry Grubbs of Durham, and David C. Hansley of Wilson; and "Involvement of Members in the Life and Ministry of the Church" by the Rev. Ray Hodge of Kinston.

The program for Tuesday will include: "The Positive Use of the Minister's Role" by the Rev. Bruce Barrow of Snow Hill; "The Minister as a Christian Educator" by the Rev. Chris Singleton; "The Minister and Pastoral Visitation" by the Rev. C. L. Patrick of Walstonburg; "Resources for Sermon Preparation" by the Rev. Harry Grubbs; and "Sermon Preparation and the Church Year" by the Rev. Bill Futch of Chinquapin.

All ministers are invited to participate. For more information, contact: The Rev. Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page 12)

promoting the gospel. As one studies Paul's life, one feels that he would have been very intese in whatever he undertook.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A maid once said, "Before I was baptized a Christian I used to brush the sweepings under the madam's living room rug. Now I use the dustpan every time. Then she said, "I'm not what I ought to be. I'm not what I'm going to be. But I'm already better than I was."

What a testimony! It is such simplicity that wins the lost to Christ. We simply tell what Christ has done for us in the best and truest way we can. It works!—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

CHILDREN'S HOME

(Continued from Page 15)

Youth Fellowship	75.00
New Sandy Hill	25.00
Piney Grove	150.00
Pine Level	178.20
Pleasant Grove	5.00
Rains Crossroad	150.00
Rosebud	5.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Stancil's Chapel	44.83
St. Mary's	583.00
Union Chapel	32.50
Union Grove	67.50
Unity (Durham)	25.00
Unity (Wilson)	100.00
TOTAL	$2,732.07

OTHER STATES

Bim Ladies Aid	$ 10.00
Cazy Young Mothers	20.00
TOTAL	$ 30.00

Coming Events . . .

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Work

August 4, 5—Summer Orientation, Mount Olive College

August 7, 8—Minister's Institute, Mount Olive College

August 14-25—The Third Ann Pastor's Conference, Carolina B Institute, Pine Level, North Caroli

August 21—Residence Halls Op Mount Olive College

August 22—Educational Advisi Mount Olive College

August 23—Board of Directors Children's Home Meeting, 9 a. Children's Home, Middlesex

August 23—Board of Superannua Meeting, 11 a. m., Children's Ho Middlesex

August 23—Board of Directors Retirement Homes Meeting, 1 p. Children's Home, Middlesex

NEWS NOTES

Mount Tabor Announces Revival Services



Marvin Waters

Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Chu Creswell, would like to announce revival services beginning Monday ni August 7 and continuing through Fr night, August 11 with the Rev. Ma Waters, pastor of the Shiloh chu Pinetown, as the visiting evange Services will begin at 8 each night special singing. The pastor, the Ransom McAbee, and the ch membership extend an invitation to attend these services.

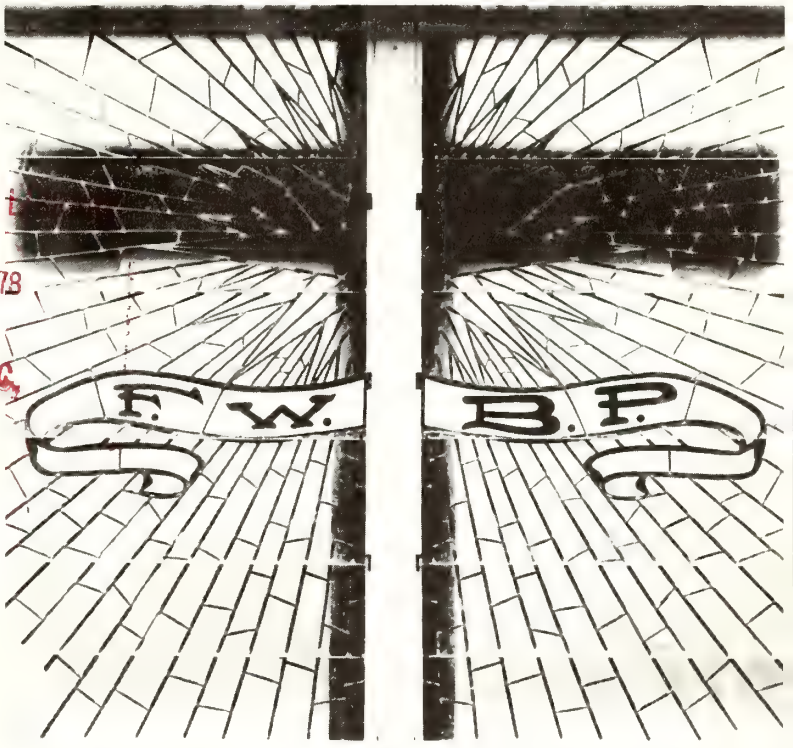




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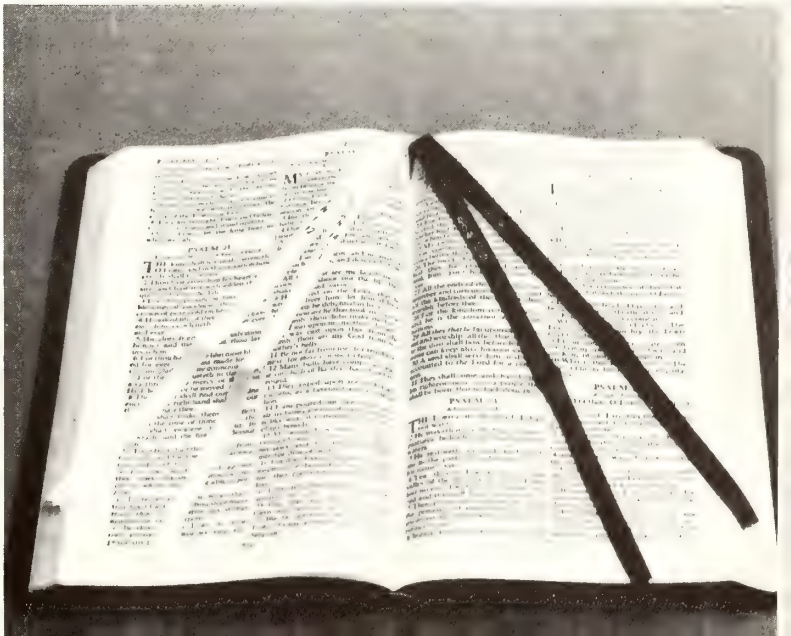
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AUG 9 1978
DURHAM, N. C.



AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS: AN EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT FOR CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION

EDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA





Cover Puppet Photos
by Scott Sowers
Cover Bible and Stained-Glass Window
Photo by Johnny Taylor

AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS, INVOLVEMENT, AND CHRISTIAN GROWTH

According to the renowned contemporary author-lecturer-educator Ekwall, people retain 10 percent of what they *read*, 20 percent of what they *hear*, 30 percent of what they *see*, 50 percent of what they *see and hear*, 70 percent of what they *say as they talk*, and 90 percent of what they *say as they do a thing*. Personal involvement, then, is the key to learning.

Educators suggest that some of the teaching procedures most often used are of little value in getting students to retain what is taught them. It should be considered that teaching a new concept can better be done if one *illustrates* that concept by using chalkboards, overhead projectors, or other audio-visual aids such as puppets, films, and dramatic musical records. The use of this type of amplification brings the retention percentage up to 50 percent versus 20 percent from an oral presentation alone.

The church and all its facets should be in the education business; and as such, it should employ all acceptable means to teach, to instruct, to edify, and to instill the precepts and teachings of Christianity: witnessing, lifting up, setting aright; and introducing the *best of all philosophies* to the masses. Whenever possible, those who are instructing should encourage the "students" to voice a new principle, rule, word, etc., shortly after it has been taught. The retention rate should then measure 70 percent.

Whenever a new principle, rule, or whatever is taught, we should couple it with a "doing" activity. In Sunday school, this might include such activities as writing or illustrating the rule (the newly-learned truth), or using a new concept in a written sentence while the students say the word and sentence. An expansion of this idea could involve the acting out of the words or rule as the students say them. An example of this method can easily be demonstrated through the use of flashlights as the children learn the verse, "People love darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil" or "I am the Light of the world." The possibilities are unlimited.

We should not limit the use of audio-visual aids to Sunday school. The Sunday night service should provide a fertile ground for such growing activities—if we can prevail upon the people to attend such services! It is a known fact that there is a little bit of "child" in all adults; and though they may not want to admit to being interested in chalktalks, films, and other forms of instructive and entertaining devices, their eyes betray their false dignity. There is nothing wrong with being entertained, if the entertainment can reach souls which are asleep or dead. If it takes a film, a puppet show, or a drama to wake them up to their lost condition, to make them more aware of their need of growth, to impress them with the necessity of doing something for their Lord, then, by all means, we should use every resource we have available.

Passivity is on the increase in most of our churches. Ask any minister. He will tell you that he laments the fact that attendance for Sunday night services drops steadily during the summer months. There are exceptions, of course, but for the most part, vacation months become vacations from God. This should not be the case.

What to do has been the question for as long as I can remember. We would suggest that one *must keep in practice*. Just as the musician must stay close to his instrument and involve himself with rehearsal and/or performance, so must the Christian stay close to his church and keep involved with its work. We would certainly not suggest that a Christian "rehearse" Christianity, but he must *practice it in order to grow*. His performance, then, will take on greater perfection.

Personal involvement, as we've mentioned, is the key to growth. So, if we want to be 90 percent on target (and all of us should want to be), we should do and say at the same time. And if audio-visual aids can facilitate such learning, use them; and use them as often as they prove effective. Our Lord did.

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AUGUST 9, 1978
Volume 93 Number 31

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Smithfield, New Bern, and Wilson, 9:30 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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"SKETCHES" OF RELIGION

by the Rev. Edmundo G. Gonzalez

Confession of Faith of 1611

TWO sections of the Christian church originated in the Netherlands over two and a half centuries ago. The refugees streamed into Holland as English exiles and found freedom in the Dutch Republic; the Independents or Congregationalists at Leyden, the Baptists at Amsterdam. There were, in fact, two English congregations at Amsterdam. The older congregation was led by Francis Johnson, who had been their pastor for nine years. John Smyth was pastor of another English congregation which, though separate, was intimately connected with the first or elder of the two.

For various reasons Smyth did not join Johnson's company or congregation. First, Smyth's congregation, steadily increased by the exiles from Gainsborough (England) and environs, might have become too numerous and it would have been too difficult to meet together in one rather small place and to watch over each other properly as these Christians did. Since each congregation had only one pastor, Smyth would have had to renounce his position.

While the English exiles were in Holland, the great controversy between Dutch Calvinism and Arminianism, respectively led by Franciscus Gomarus and Jacobus Arminius, more and more agitated the nation. Johnson adhered to the rigid predestinarianism of the Calvinists, while that Smyth held the opposite Arminian views. Yet both congregations were on friendly terms.

It is not known where Smyth and his congregation met in their early days; it is thought, however, that they met in Smyth's own house or perhaps in the home of one of his friends. Smyth practiced physic or medicine, having gained some medical knowledge at Cambridge. He was generally beloved, and only a few of the English objected to his different opinions on some religious and ecclesiastical points.

From 1 Corinthians 14:26, Smyth deduced the singing of psalms to be the utterance of the Holy Ghost, and, furthermore, that no one is tied either to rhythm or tune as it would otherwise quench the Spirit. It must be done, he said, by one person alone and not by all together, so that joint singing in the church was abolished.

Smyth fully believed the Bible to be the Word of God. He believed it was only true in the original texts: Hebrew and Greek. However excellent the translations might be, they were but the work of man. Smyth held these translations to be on the same level as apocryphal writings. He also believed that the original documents contained more substance of truth than even the Prophets and Apostles could conceive. Smyth felt that the original texts were the image of the mind of God. Even the most learned and holy men could not in a translation excess truly and fully the Holy Ghost's meaning in the originals.

We will not here now discuss the baptism of John Smyth. The material for this subject is so vast that it staggers the mind. Let us pass on to the subject of Smyth's rejection of his baptism and to his petition to the Waterlander Mennonite Church.

Smyth had second thoughts about his baptism and persuaded his congregation to change their views and ask for membership with the Waterlander Mennonite Church in Amsterdam. All agreed but ten. In the company or congregation of Smyth was one named Thomas Helwys. It was Helwys who took charge of the nine adherents who refused to sign the petition to the Mennonite church. These had nothing against the Mennonite brethren but were satisfied with their views and baptism. Helwys and his group proceeded to excommunicate Smyth and his company on March 12, 1609. This expulsion of Smyth and his followers hung heavily on their consciences, heavier than anyone could conceive. Two years later in the preface of his book, **A Declaration of the Faith of English People**, Helwys signed and wrote: "What would we not have borne and done, how willingly had we given up all we have, nay more, dug out our eyes, sacrificed our lives, if we might have continued with a good conscience to profit by his teachings! God knows it! Do not men know it too? Does he himself not know it? Have we not disregarded ourselves, our wives and children, and all that is ours in order to honor him? We own to have had all reason for doing so, because of the excellent gifts God of His grace has so overflowingly given him. All our love was still too poor and unworthy of him. Let, therefore, everyone and himself not think otherwise than that the loss of such a man we most sadly have taken and still do take to heart. But he has denied the Lord's truth, he is fallen from grace, and, though the fowler laid the snares, the knot was broken, and we are liberated. God be praised and thanked!"

From March 1609 until sometime in 1611, Helwys' group assembled and every Sunday partook of the Lord's Supper in the house of one of their members.

Turn the Page

Helwys also proved to be an able writer. Besides his **Advertisement and Admonition** to the Mennonite congregation, he also wrote a Confession of Faith which is a declaration of faith of English people remaining in Holland in 1611. This revised confession of faith contains 27 articles and had some notable omissions, augmentations and alterations.

Instead of the positive denial of original sin, Article Four of the new edition declares that, "Men are by nature the children of wrath, born in iniquity and in sin conceived, wise to all evil, but to do good they have no knowledge." Freedom of will, atonement for the sins of all mankind, the possibility that the saints might fall from grace, all this, however, was maintained.

Article Seventeen, which concerns church discipline, reads: "That brethren impenitent in one sin after the admonition of the church, are to be excluded the communion of the Saints." To this same article was added: "and therefore not the committing of sin doth cut off anie from the Church, but refusing to hear the Church to reformacion." (words spelled as in the Confession) The large article seventeen of the early Confession contained something of the ADIAPHORA, that is, tolerance of action or beliefs not specifically prohibited in the Scriptures. On the other hand we find new declarations with regards to the power to form a church and administer the seals.

The fifth article of the Confession, dealing with election and condemnation, led to the refutations against which Helwys tried to argue in his writings entitled: "A short and plaine proofe by the Word and works of God, that God's decree is not the cause off anye manns sinne or condemnation, and all men are redeemed by Christ. As also that no infants are condemned." Helwys dedicated this book June 2, 1611 to Lady Bowes. The dedication reads: ". . . that God giveing Adam freewil and power in himself not to eate of the forbidden fruit and live, or to eate and dye, could no in his eternal decree ordayne or appoint him to life or death, for then his freewil bene overthrowne; and if Adam had not eaten and sinned (which was in his own power) then had not death entered. Therefore God did not decree that death should enter and then God's decree is not the cause of anie man's condemnation." (words spelled as in the Confession) The beginning of the fifth article reads somewhat "fuzzily" but is then expanded with an explanation. "That God before the foundation off the World hath Predestinated that all that beleeve in him shall be saved, and al that beleeve not shalbee damned, all which he knows before. And this is the election and reprobacion spoken of in the Scripturs, concerning salvacion, and condemnacion, and not that God hath Predestinated men to bee wicked, and so to bee damned, but that men being wicked shallbee damned, for God would have all men saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth, and would have no man to perish, but would have all men come to repentance and willeth not the death of him that deith. And therefore God is the author off no mens condemnacion, according to the saieing of the Prophet. Thy destruction O Israel, is off thy selfe, but thy helpe is off mee. Osaea 13."

Article Sixteen should teach every Christian of the twentieth century something of the concern that existed in the seventeenth century among the Christian brethren. We can sense and see the bitter persecution believers went through because of their undying faith. They knew each other well and maintained a deep respect for each other as children of God, performed all the duties of godly Christian love to each other. I would to God such godly manifestations of Christian love truly existed within all our Free Will Baptist churches!

There is a special admonition for the preacher, too. "And speciallie the Elders ought to knowe the whole flock, whereoff the Holie Ghost has made them oversears." Amen!

J. De Hoop Scheffer, D.D., **History of the Free Churchmen, called The Brownists, Pilgrim Fathers and Baptists in the Dutch Republic**, 1581-1701. Andrus and Church, Ithaca, N. Y.

William L. Lumpkin, **Baptist Confessions of Faith**, The Judson Press, Philadelphia, Penna.

CRAGMONT

1978 CAMP SCHEDULE

AUGUST 7-12: WOMAN'S CONFERENCE—Mrs. Dola Dudley, director; Mrs. Lillie Mae Sasser, registrar, Route 2, Box 497, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530.

AUGUST 14-18: FAMILY WEEK—The Rev. Douglas Skinner, director-registrar, c/o Cragmont Assembly, 1233 N. Fork Road, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711; phone: (704) 669-7677.

"THE MYTHS OF BACCHUS"

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

Bacchus was one of the mythological gods of the ancient Greeks. Through the use of wine he turned people into savage, maddened beasts. The rites of some of his orgies defy description. When men and women and young people are under the influence of liquor they do some strange things.

The myths of Bacchus persist today, and people are still falling for the phony promises the god of wine offers to the unsuspecting.

A man that held an important position started drinking. He thought that it would help him socially and in the business world. But it didn't. Instead he lost his friends and his job.

Most people that start drinking are like this man was. They have no idea of what their early drinking will lead them into. They begin with just a "social drink." It's just "a pepper-upper," or maybe a tranquilizer. There's no harm in it, they think. It's always that first drink that causes all of the trouble.

"Drinking makes you more popular." That's one of the myths. But does it? Taking a drink is supposed to break down your shyness at a party. In reality it dulls the sensitive part of the brain. You don't have the capacity to reason correctly. You may imagine you are brilliant when others see you as disgusting.

Centuries ago an old, wise writer penned these words: "Wine is a mocker". It fools people. And the billion-dollar liquor industry is happy that it does fool people. If it ever advertised the "graduates" of its drinking curriculum, no one would sign up for its courses.

The myths of Bacchus are still here today, and men and women and young people are still falling for the mythological god's guile. The "social" drink that many people think they must accept at parties is misnamed. "Dehumanizing" would be a better word for it. Alcohol first effects the higher abilities of man, his ability to reason, appreciate, utilize his own will power. These are all the abilities of a human that no animals possess.

"It's the thing to do, everyone drinks." That's another Bacchus myth. And that's just what it is, a myth. Many people do not drink. They don't fall for that bunk. A lot of people have learned that it's too dangerous. It just doesn't do our bodies any good.

"But the liquor industry, through high taxes, brings in a great deal of revenue to the government." That's another falsehood. Examine the figures. In one recent year the Federal, state, and local governments of the United States took in almost eight billion dollars.

Sounds great, doesn't it? But that same year a total of over twenty-five billion dollars was lost through lost production, payments through the welfare system to widows, and children of drunken drivers who killed themselves, cost of operating courts, and a whole host of other expenses. Many of these expenses have to be paid by people who don't drink. So the drunken driver is taking money out of innocent people's pockets.

We are supposed to be an educated society. We know much about electronics, nuclear fission, color television, plus a lot more. Don't you think it's about time we learned the truths behind Bacchus and his myths?

IN MEMORIAM

WALTER SUTTON

On September 27, 1977, Mr. Walter Sutton departed from this earthly life to go to be with the Lord he loved so dearly.

Walter was 73 years old. Surviving him are his wife, Mrs. Kathleen Gaskins Sutton; a son, Bruce Earl Sutton of the home; two brothers, Lyman and Carl Sutton, both of Calico; and three sisters, Mrs. Johnny Oakley of Shelmerdine, Mrs. Lossie McGowan of Portertown, and Mrs. Lela Jones of Greenville.

Funeral service was held at Wilkerson Funeral Chapel. Officiating ministers were the Rev. W. H. Willis, his pastor, and the Rev. Willis Wilson. Burial was in the Pinewood Memorial Park.

Walter's early life was spent in the Calico community, and he had lived in the Belvoir community for many years. He was a member of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Shelmerdine, and was a retired farmer.

Walter regularly attended church and participated in the services, activities, and programs whenever he could. He was an ardent church member, and lived a good long life; but his was more than a life of years. It was a good, useful life whose portrait may be seen in the Beatitudes (see Matthew 5:39).

He not only had a goodly heritage; he left a goodly heritage.

Life was not always easy for Walter. His childhood, as is the case of many of us, was one of hard work, home responsibilities—and in those days, limited finance and few opportunities.

He knew what he believed and he stood for it firmly, but arrogance, vanity, and pride were never a part of his life.

In the words of the prophet, he did justly, loved mercy, and walked humbly with his God (see Micah 6:8).

His wish was to grow spiritually and to be rich toward God. Goodness—not wealth—was his goal.

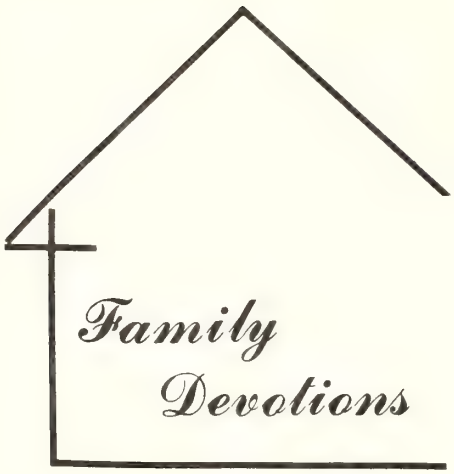
To know Walter was to see one in whom there was neither guile nor deception. He was honest and genuine. Integrity was his hallmark, and his word was his bond.

If he could not say something good, he said nothing at all. He never sowed discord among his friends, nor was he ever a source of dissension.

If others could not agree, he quietly chose what he thought was right and sought to be a friend to all.

He lived a beautiful life; but it was more than beautiful—it was useful.

(Continued on Page 7)



SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

Scripture Reading—John 1:1

"THIS DEATHLESS BOOK!"

The deathless book has survived three great dangers: the negligence of its friends, the false systems built upon it, the warfare of those who have hated it.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What book do you know of that has survived all these dangers? It is the Bible, God's Holy Word. He cares for His children by His Word.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 9:9

FALLING SPARROW!

It was a beautiful winter day. I was sitting on the veranda of a southern hotel enjoying the sunshine and sky. Suddenly I became conscious of the swift flight of some small object before my eyes. Then came a dull thud as of something falling. There before my eyes, not ten feet away, lay the crumpled body of a sparrow. He turned upon his back. His little claws stretched appealingly toward the sky. There was a convulsive shiver as though in pain. Then the tiny eyelids closed over the death-dimmed eyes. A quick, short gasp and all was over. A tell-tale spot of crimson on the little breast gave the story of the tragedy. His swift flight through the air had evidently brought him into a death collision with a pole or buttress and his sparrow life had been the price. It was only a passing incident, this death of a tiny sparrow. Seemingly no one but myself, sitting there alone, had noticed it. But like a flash came to mind a wondrous text, with its marvelous truth—

"Not a sparrow falleth without your Father."

PRAYER THOUGHT

An animal or a human being does not die without God, their Father, knowing about it. He cares for all His creations.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18:3

LITTLE FINGERS

If we knew the little fingers
Pressed against the window pane,
Would be cold and stiff tomorrow,
Never trouble us again,—
Would the bright eyes of our darling
Catch the frown upon our brow?
Would the prints of rosy fingers
Vex us then, as they do now?

Ah, those little ice cold fingers—
How they point our memories back
To the hasty words and actions
Strewn along our backward track!
How those little hands remind us,
As in snowy grace they lie,
Not to scatter thorns, but roses,
For our reaping by and by.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you remember as a child watching the rain fall on the windowpane? Do you remember that sound? Did you ever write your name on the windowpane? It showed for days.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:9

WHY HE WAS SURE

Someone said, "Children are so ignorant when you think they understand." Later, he went with Mr. Spurgeon to see some children, who said to one of them, "Well, my boy, have you a good heart?" "Yes, sir," replied the boy. "There you are," said the gentleman, turning to Mr. Spurgeon, "you see he does not know the first thing about the Gospel! He doesn't know he is a sinner." Whereupon Mr. Spurgeon addressed the boy, "How do you know you have a good heart?" "Well," said the boy, "when I took the Lord Christ as my Saviour, He gave me a NEW HEART, and I am sure it was a good one!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Sometimes an adult doesn't understand that a child understands about God more than one may think he does. He knows that Jesus loves him.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

Scripture Reading—Psalm 89:30

CHILDREN EVANGELISTS!

It happened in Orleans, Indiana. Two children, a girl of twelve, and a boy of ten years, were among those who early confessed Christ in the meeting. They made their way to the outer door, and brought their father, a railroad engineer, just off his engine. They knelt beside him and pointed him to Christ. He was brightly converted! The world has no more beautiful scene!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you ever won a soul to Christ? Do you know how to lead a soul to Him? You don't have to be an adult; you can lead a soul when you are a little child.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18

Scripture Reading—Acts 11:26

"MY RULE FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING"

Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman had this which he called "My rule for Christian living": "The rule that governs my life is this: anything that dims my vision of Christ, or takes away my taste for Bible study, or cramps my prayer life, or makes Christian work difficult, is wrong for me, and I must, as a Christian, turn away from it." This simple rule may help you find a safe road for your feet along life's road.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should not let anything that dims our vision of Jesus come in our way. We should close it out of our paths.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 4:15

RESPONSIBILITY

"Yours must be a very responsible position," said a traveler to a switchman who had charge of the switches where five lines converge. "Yes," was the reply, "but it is as nothing compared to yours as a Christian."

PRAYER THOUGHT

You have a very good life as a Christian, with much responsibility. God gave it to you for you to use with the best of your knowledge.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

IN MEMORIAM

(Continued from Page 5)

His was an affectionate nature, and he showed his love in a way that was uniquely his own.

His Christian character was shown at home as well as in the community and church affairs.

He will be greatly missed by his wife, family, friends, and loved ones.

Even though he suffered, he always had a smile and a kind word for everyone.

He had a terminal illness. We saw his pain and sorrow which he bore. He tried always to be tall and strong as he grew thin and pale.

He had done his best to take steps to spare his wife and family as much grief as he could. He realized his illness created many severe problems for them.

His death was devastating, but not unexpected; he knew long before his death that he was terminally ill. And in a remarkable and poignant way, he still called upon his Lord.

Yes, he was a strong man—strong enough to handle his illness with truth and honesty unto the end.

When the Lord called him:
Come unto me
Come unto me, free from all your pain and sorrow,
Come into Heaven for a beautiful life lived well,
Come from this world of turmoil and strife,
Come and rest from your labor,
Into a place called Heaven.
Nevermore will we behold his face,
But what a great consolation to know
He helped to make this world a better place,
But the soul will live on forever,
Around the eternal throne of God.

Respectfully submitted,
Novella M. Stokes

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: Please explain, "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it" (Hebrews 4:1).

Answer: In Chapter 3 of Hebrews, the Holy Spirit moved upon the human author of Hebrews to sound a warning to those Christian Jews to whom the epistle was written hoping to influence them to continue their Christian life of devotion in a steadfast manner in spite of persecution.

The Christian way is not an easy one now, and that was much truer in the time when Hebrews was written. It is easier than Satan's way of the world, the flesh and the devil, but Satan will hinder one from seeing that if he can, and he can if only he is able to influence us to doubt. The overcomer in the Christian life is a person of faith and trust.

Dr. Kenneth S. Wuest gives the following discussion in his book, **Hebrews in the Greek New Testament**, (Page 83):

"Having reminded his readers that the generation which came out of Egypt did not enter into the rest of Canaan because of unbelief, the writer now proceeds to warn them of a possible failure on their part of entering into rest in Messiah. The words 'being left' are the translation of a present participle. The idea is 'their being left behind and still remaining.' The writer wishes to emphasize the fact that the promise of a spiritual rest in Messiah is still available to the first century Hebrews. He is fearful lest any of them should come short of this rest. The words 'come short of' are the translation of a verb which could be rendered either 'should seem to have fallen short, should be judged to have fallen short, or should think that he has fallen short or come too late.' The historical background and the context are decisive for the last. These persecuted Jews had expected to find the fulfilment of all promise in Messiah, including freedom from stress and strain such as they were experiencing in the persecutions (10:32-34). The Old Testament Jews were taught to believe that tribulation was a mark of God's displeasure with Israel. They did not understand that that which was a mark of God's displeasure with His own in Old Testament times was a mark of His blessing and a means of purging and refining the lives of saints in New Testament times. Thus, they found it hard to believe that rest was attainable in Messiah. Their professed faith was being sorely tried by the adverse circumstances in which they found themselves. Thus, they were in danger of renouncing their professed faith and of returning to the First Testament sacrifices under the stress of this persecution. The writer proceeds to show that this promise is still open."

Barnes Notes discusses the verse in this manner (Page 93):

"He shows (Verse 1) that the promise of a 'rest' yet remains, and that there is still danger, as there was formerly, of coming short of it, or of losing it. He affirms that such was the nature of that promise, that it is applicable to us as well as to those to whom it was first made, and that the promise of rest as really pertains to Christians now as it did to the Hebrews of old."

Cragmont Bulletin
"The Mountaintop Experience"
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, N. C.

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY, INC.
TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR JUNE, 1978

Balance Brought Forward June 1, 1978 — $ 2,108.20

Receipts

Albemarle District		
Mount Zion	$ 25.00	
Union Meeting	119.85	$ 144.85
Cape Fear District		
Lee's Chapel		
Marlowe Tew	50.00	
Senior Youth Choir	25.00	75.00
Central District		
Bethany Layman's League	40.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Phil Brackins	5.00	
Central Layman's League Singspiration	318.85	
Friendship Sunday School and Bible School	75.00	
Greenville, First	125.00	
Hickory Grove	60.00	
Hugo	50.00	
Hull Road	250.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Langley	15.00	
Verna McLawhorn	2.00	
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy D. Moore	10.00	
Owens Chapel	50.00	
Peace	50.00	
Reedy Branch	25.00	
Mr. and Mrs. S.A. Paramore	25.00	
Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Bowen	50.00	
Rose Hill Sunday School	50.00	
Eva Worthington	10.00	1,210.85
Eastern District		
Angola	60.00	
Bridgeton	23.00	
Christian Chapel	350.00	
Crab Point	15.00	
Gray Branch	100.00	
Holly Springs	1,085.42	
Mount Zion, Pamlico County	25.00	
Third Union	50.00	1,708.42
Western District		
Calvary	100.00	
Friendship		
Rev. and Mrs. Dwight Chapman	60.00	
Milbournie	23.00	
Pine Level	150.00	
Pleasant Plain Youth	25.00	
Saint Mary's	125.00	
Selma	25.00	
Sherron Acres	100.00	
Trinity	200.00	
Unity, Durham	25.00	
Wilson, First		
Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Skinner	30.00	
Wilson Youth	233.00	
Western Youth Fellowship	67.85	$1,163.85
Total Receipts		$ 4,302.97
Total for Which to Account		$ 6,411.17

Disbursements

Operational Expenses	$ 44.58	
Burress Insurance Agency	83.70	
Internal Revenue Service (for Douglas Skinner)	200.00	
North Carolina Department of Revenue (for Douglas Skinner)	20.00	
Transfer of Funds to Main Building Fund	1,996.27	
Transfer of Funds to General Savings	1,566.62	
Total Disbursements		$ 3,911.17
Balance on Hand July 1, 1978		$ 2,500.00

EARMARKED FUNDS

General Fund	$ 2,500.00
Main Building Fund	65,457.44
General Savings	2,715.28
Total in Bank	$70,672.72

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer
Route 1
Sims, North Carolina 27880

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE TERMED SUCCESSFUL



Ministers' Conference

Pictured above is a group of ministers who attended the Annual Free Will Baptist Ministers' Conference, July 17-20, 1978, at Cragmont Assembly, Black Mountain, North Carolina.

The following are the resolutions passed by the ministers during this annual conference. They are here printed as information.

Resolution #1

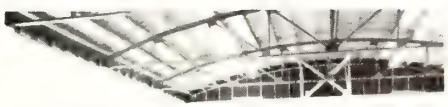
Be it resolved that the members of the North Carolina Original Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association in this 1978 session reaffirm our doctrine of one's spiritual growth as set forth on Page 30 of our **Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptist of North Carolina**, which reads as follows:

"Sanctification is the continuing of God's Grace by which the Christian may constantly grow in grace and in knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Be it further resolved that our Free Will Baptist Ministers of this Association stress to the people of our churches that the teaching and practice of speaking in tongues are Pentecostal doctrine and they are not, nor have they ever been the teaching and practice of the Original Free Will Baptist Church.

Resolution #2

Inasmuch as the wives of many of our ministers have been so helpful and continue to be a vital part of our ministry; and whereas they receive very little public recognition: Be it resolved that this 1978 session of the N.C. Ministerial Association give them a rising vote of appreciation in this business session and also at the banquet on Wednesday night of this conference.





Worship Services

Resolution #3

Whereas the Manager and staff of Cragmont Assembly have labored diligently to provide for our comfort and welfare during this conference and have made our stay this week a pleasant and enjoyable experience; therefore, be it resolved that we give a rising vote of appreciation to them for their services.



Gathering of Fellowship

Resolution #4

Be it resolved that we give a vote of thanks to our retiring officers for their work during the past year in planning and executing the annual and midyear conferences of our Association and in particular the program of this session.



Tabernacle

In other action the Ministerial Association voted to pay for and furnish one of the rooms in the new building at Cragmont. This action called for a gift of $5,000 over a five-year period.

New officers for the 1978-1980 term are as follows:

President—Francis Garner
Vice-President—C. H. Overman
Secretary—Royce Reynolds
Treasurer—Ralph Sumner
Member at Large to the Executive Committee—David Hill

HARRELL RESIGNS POST



Charles H. Harrell

The resignation of Charles H. Harrell as Business Manager-Treasurer of Mount Olive College was announced July 27, jointly by President W. Burkette Raper and James B. Hunt Sr., Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Harrell, who came to Mount Olive College from Burlington Industries in 1963, stated that his resignation was due to his desire "to pursue personal business interests."

W. Nathan Reynolds, former city executive for First Union National Bank in Goldsboro, has been appointed to serve as active Business Manager-Treasurer effective August 22. Reynolds is currently serving as Assistant to the President, a position he has held since February, 1975.

President Raper praised Harrell as "one of the most competent College Business Managers in North Carolina, or in the Nation. All of us at Mount Olive College join in expressing our deep appreciation for his fifteen years of loyal and dedicated services."

Harrell is a Certified Financial Aid Administrator and a Certified Purchasing Manager.

During Harrell's administration the annual budget of Mount Olive College increased from $175,000 to $2 million and assets have grown from $200,000 to $5 million. Also during his tenure, the entire development program on the new campus has taken place.

Harrell, who resides with his family on Breazeale Avenue in Mount Olive, said his plans were to remain in Mount Olive.

GIFT SUPPORT SETS NEW RECORD

Gifts and financial commitments to Mount Olive College set a new record with $1,137,440 for the 1977-78 fiscal year ending June 30.

"This level of support is the most generous in the twenty-five year history of the College," commented Dr. W. Burkette Raper, college president. "We are deeply grateful to the Free Will Baptist Church, our alumni and many friends for this degree of confidence in what Mount Olive stands for," he added.

One of the factors accounting for increased support is the provision for different methods of giving.

A breakdown in methods of giving include Charitable Giving Through Life Insurance Program $583,000; direct gifts $428,645, Life Income Contracts totaling $113,538; and pledges amounting to $12,257.

In cooperation with one of the oldest, largest and strongest companies in America, Mount Olive College is developing a pilot program that will be used as a national model for building a college endowment through life insurance.

The program is one in which a modest tax-deductible gift to a college will provide a significant endowment in the name of the donor.

Direct gifts included all contributions of money regardless of the purpose of the gift. These gifts are primarily for the educational budget, however, in this category are also gifts designated for building funds, student aid, library books, and endowment.

Under a Life Income contract, a person invests money, real estate or other assets with the College in return for a guaranteed income for life.

"The program is designed to offer experienced management of a major investment in addition to the advantage of accurate tax records and significant savings on estate taxes," Dr. Raper explained.

Committed pledges were down over last year due to the concentration of new programs.

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of May, 1978 totaled $359.50 and were as follows:

In Memory of

Sandra and Kristen Aldridge by the Rev. and Mrs. Melvin K. Everington, Cove City.

Mrs. Lula W. Beale by Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Earley, Ahoskie.

Mrs. Maude Bundy by Mr. and Mrs. Preston Sutton, Mount Olive.

Mr. Hilton Bullock by Mr. and Mrs. Preston Sutton, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Lena Fordham Davenport by Miss Veride Davenport, Deep Run.

Mr. Carl Davis by Gary F. Barefoot,

Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Knowles, Mount Olive; Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. John Southerland, Goldsboro; and Mr. and Mrs. Preston Sutton, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Minnie R. Dickson by Mr. and Mrs. Preston Sutton, Mount Olive.

James Joel Gilbert by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Felix W. Ruiz, Goldsboro.

Rosalyn Harris by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Mrs. Rachel Patten, Mount Olive; Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; and Mrs. Annie K. Sutton, Mount Olive.

The Rev. Jesse Heath by Fifth Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference.

Mrs. Blanche Howard by Cora Wells Bible Class, Pearsall's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Kenansville.

Mrs. Carrie Davenport Jackson by Mrs. Mildred Blizzard, Deep Run.

Carris Lucas by Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Lamm and Bryan, Wilson.

William (Bill) Martin by Mrs. Flonnie Creech, Princeton.

Clifford Neal Moore by the Rev. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Georgia Walston Moore by Mrs. Kate R. Merritt, Rocky Mount.

Roy J. Outlaw by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Jeannie Sanderson by Mr. and Mrs. Ottis Miller, Beulaville; and Mrs. Walter Rhodes, Beulaville.

John T. Smithwick by Core Point Free Will Baptist Church, Blounts Creek.

Clarence Wainwright by Core Point Free Will Baptist Church, Blounts Creek.

Mrs. Hazel Wiggins by Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Earley, Ahoskie.

In Honor Of

Miss Melanie Gay Daughtry by Mrs. R. Y. Stephenson, Clayton.

Gifts

Kappi Chi, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive.

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of June, 1978 totaled $326.50 and were as follows:

In Memory of

Mahlon L. Aycock by Miss Louise Edgerton, Pikeville.

Eddie and Annie Batten by the Rev. and Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Sims.

Carmen Cates by Mr. and Mrs. John L. Grady, Mount Olive.

Dr. John Chase by Gary Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Beatrice Gooding Corbett by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hill, Ayden.

Mrs. Dora Dawson by Mrs. Ruby Eubanks, Kinston.

Mrs. Rhodora L. Dudley by Gary Barefoot, Mount Olive; the Rev. and Mrs. Bill Futch, Chinquapin; the Rev. and Mrs. Sheldon Howard, Mount Olive; the Rev. and Mrs. S. A. Smith, Beulaville; and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Walker, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Isabella Jordan Flowers by Mr. and Mrs. Jordan Harrell, Mount Olive.

Alice P. Garris by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hill, Ayden.

Clarence Gatlin by Mr. and Mrs. Harvey A. Whitford, Vanceboro.

Leslie S. Hart by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hill, Ayden.

Mrs. Pearl Daughtry Hathaway by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

E. W. Humphrey by Mr. and Mrs. Alex E. Barwick, Deep Run; Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Blizzard Jr., Kenansville; and Mr. and Mrs. Burrell Stroud, Deep Run.

Mrs. Hattie Jackson by Mrs. Mildred Blizzard, Deep Run.

Miss Beatrice Jones by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr., Lucama.

Kenneth Long by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Stocks, Ayden.

Charles P. Lowery by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Harvey C. McPhail by Miss Margaret Martin, Mount Olive.

W. Bronson Mercer by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Lillie Moore by Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama.

William Milton Nowell Sr. by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive, and Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Janice Overman by Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Fussell, Ayden.

Hattie Scott by Mr. and Mrs. John L. Grady, Mount Olive.

Nettie L. Shine by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Dr. A. Jones Smith by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Flossie Sullivan by Miss Louise Edgerton, Pikeville.

Mr. Almond Warrick by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Mr. Herbert Wells by Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Knowles, Mount Olive; and Miss Margaret Martin, Mount Olive.

In Honor Of

Clifton Aaron Barnett by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

David Mark Brantly by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Leslie Dawn Brock by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Shannon Kay Currie by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Corey Patrick Fader by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Katherine Elizabeth Harris by Mount

(Continued on Page 14)

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For August 20

FAITH IN TIME OF PERIL

Lesson Text: Acts 27:21-26, 39-44
Memory Verse: Psalm 46:1

I. INTRODUCTION

Paul has confronted shouting mobs of people seeking his death, has felt the lash of whips, and has experienced the sickening thud of stones crashing into his body. All this he has encountered in his service for Jesus. Now we find him in the midst of a terrible tempest at sea. The sky is black, the waves are frightening, the wind howls. It is a prelude to shipwreck and disaster at sea. Yet, in it all, the great apostle stands firm in his faith. The secret of it all lies not just in his own inner strength, but in the One who stands by him. He has been told not to fear because God has more work for him to do in Rome.

In every storm of life we can stand, as did Paul, if we look to and trust the One who stands by us and with us. The apostle encouraged his shipmates to cheer up because, he said, "I believe God." Only he can stand in life who has "invisible means of support."

Our last glimpse of Paul was as he concluded his great speech before King Agrippa. The aftermath was that the king, his sister, Bernice, Festus the governor, and the rest of the nobles who had heard Paul's case agreed that Paul had done nothing worthy of death and might have been set free if he had not made his appeal to Caesar's tribunal.

The twenty-seventh chapter tells of Paul's departure from Caesarea and his arrival at the port of Fair Havens on the island of Crete. Paul was entrusted to the special charge of a centurion named Julius. They left Caesarea in a ship bound for Adramyttium, a city on the seacoast of Asia. This vessel stopped at Sidon where Julius allowed Paul to visit his Christian friends in the city. The ship then sailed east and north of the island of Cyprus over to the southern mainland of Asia Minor to a place called Myra.

At this place Julius purchased passage for them on a ship out of Alexandria, Egypt, which was sailing to Rome. We find out later that the principal cargo it carried was wheat. After a long and slow journey the ship finally came to Fair Havens on the south central coast of Crete, which was very near the city of Lasea. Our printed text begins at this point.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Paul's journey to Rome brought severe and unusual trials, but his faith stood the test. Paul had assets from his past life and faithful ministry, and no one can ever leave his past entirely behind. In spite of determination on his part, forgiveness on the part of God, and forgetfulness on the part of others, influences from the past will always be present, to help or to hinder. The incidents in this chapter prove that Paul had help from his past.

B. The sailing season was nearly over, as it was near the end of August. There was no ship going directly to Rome, so they took a ship belonging to Adramyttium that was returning to Asia Minor. Paul's friends and companions, Aristarchus and Luke, went with him. Some commentators believe that they had to sign on as his servants to get on the ship at all. There were other prisoners on the ship, but Paul, as the only one of rank, was entitled to at least two servants. Many believe that Luke and Aristarchus signed on as his slaves so they could go with him.

C. The day after leaving Caesarea they reached Sidon, the mother city of Tyre, about seventy miles from Caesarea. Paul, out of the kindness of the centurion, Julius, was permitted to visit some close relatives and friends. Julius befriended Paul several times on this trip (vv. 3, 43; 28:16). Because of the westerly winds, they could not sail directly west, so they sailed east of the island of Cyprus (v. 4). Then they came to Myra, about two and a half miles from the coast of Lycia.

D. At Myra, they got on an Alexandrian grain ship going from Egypt to Italy (v. 6). They set sail for Cnidus, one hundred miles from Myra, but could not enter the port there because of the wind. Then they turned south to the island of Crete, sailing near Salmone and proceeding south of the island into Fair Havens. Paul admonished Julius to stay there for the winter, but the captain wanted to go to Phenice, on the western end of the island.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In Acts 9, the Lord Jesus told Ananias of Damascus that he need not be afraid to call upon Saul and help him. The Lord said He had great plans for this man who had been such a terror to the Christians. Speaking of Saul's future, He said, "For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake" (Acts 9:16).

B. As we study the apostle's experiences we learn of the many times he faced dangers and perils, even to the extent that his life was often in extreme jeopardy. But Paul never wavered in his duty, nor did he ever seek safety for his own sake. He moved amid great perils with an undaunted faith that God would preserve him. He knew what his destiny was and he knew that faith would help him reach his destiny, though not without trials and difficulties.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**



story corner

HELP IN BATTLE

LAST quarter we had a story about how Moses led the Children of Israel out of the land of Egypt. God led them through the wilderness and into the land of Canaan. There, they had to fight many battles to take possession of the land God had promised them. For the next two Sundays we are going to learn about some of these battles and see in what ways God helped them and how he gave the victory of the Jews, even when they were fewer than their enemies.

The first, and probably easiest, of these battles was the battle of Jericho. At the time of this battle, the leader of the Israelites was a man named Joshua. He was a great man; he loved God very much. He tried always to do as God wanted.

Jericho was a large city and was surrounded by a high wall. The Jews could find no way to get inside. Joshua went to the Lord in prayer. He asked the Lord to show them how to win Jericho.

God told Joshua just what to do. The Jews followed God's instructions. On the first day they were to march around the city only one time. The priests, seven of them, were to go before the ark of God, carrying seven trumpets made of the horns of rams. (The ark of God was a chest in which Moses had placed the tablets God had given him containing the Ten Commandments.)

They were to repeat this six days; but on the seventh day, they were to march around the city seven times. On the seventh time around, Joshua was to give the signal, the priests were to give a loud blast on the trumpets, and all the people were to shout as loudly as they could.

On the first day, they marched around as they were told, only one time. Then they returned to the camp. This they did for six days. On the seventh day they started out, as usual, but they did not stop after the one trip around. They continued to march around for seven times. On the seventh trip, Joshua gave the signal and the priests all lifted the trumpets to their lips and blew loudly. At the same time, all of the people of Israel shouted as loudly as they could and a most amazing thing happened. The wall of the city of Jericho fell to the ground. The people inside of the city were too amazed and startled to fight well and the Children of Israel won the battle.

God ordered that all the city and everything in it were to be burned —everything but the silver and gold and the vessels of iron and brass. They were to be dedicated to God and put into the treasury.

The next battle that was to be fought after Jericho was the battle of Ai. The army of Israel marched into battle and were defeated. They could not understand why God had allowed them to be defeated. Joshua went to God again in prayer and asked why this had happened. God told Joshua that His instructions about the city of Jericho had been followed by all but one of the Israelites. He said one man had failed to destroy everything he had found and had kept it for himself.

Joshua sent men to search the camp and find the one who had disobeyed God. They searched every man and every tent. They questioned everyone.

Finally they found the guilty man. His name was Achan. He confessed that he had kept a beautiful Babylonish garment, two hundred shekels of silver and a wedge of gold. They were buried in the earth under his tent.

Joshua sent men to dig them and bring them to him. Then he called all of the people together. He placed all of the things and Achan and his family before them. The people of Israel took rocks and stoned Achan and all of his family; then they, and the things he had taken, were burned. God had ordered them completely destroyed.

After this the Jews again marched into battle against Ai. This time God was with them and they were victorious. They won the battle and captured Ai. They had taken possession of a little more of the land God had promised would be theirs.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

Coming Events . . .

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Work

August 14-25—The Third Annual Pastor's Conference, Carolina Bible Institute, Pine Level, North Carolina

August 21—Residence Halls Open, Mount Olive College

August 22—Educational Advising, Mount Olive College

August 23—Board of Directors of Children's Home Meeting, 9 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

August 23—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 11 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

August 23—Board of Directors of Retirement Homes Meeting, 1 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

1978 CAMP VANDEMERE WOMAN'S CONFERENCE



Woman's Conference

Those attending the recent Eastern District Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere agreed that the week upheld the theme, "To Glorify God." And they also agreed that it is impossible to relate shared blessings and spiritual growth to anyone who was not there.

The first speaker, Rena Kirk (who held devotions on Monday), discussed the lives of certain men in the Bible whose lives glorified God, ending with His Son, Jesus, who glorified Him most of all. Lois Everington (who conducted the Bible study on Monday) followed that by pointing out the lives of different women in the Bible whose lives also glorified God, ending with Mary, the mother of Jesus. In his sermon Monday night, Dr. W. Burkette Raper emphasized worship as a means of glorifying God. And from then through the rest of the week, each speaker emphasized a different aspect of the theme so that each session was better than the last and at the same time, each was the best of the week!

Also on Monday, Dr. Raper conducted a brief memorial service for the late Earl Holton, member of the Board of Directors. He was assisted by Annie Belle Hines as soloist.

Other ministers who spoke at evening worship were Don Gray of Gray Branch, Ray Williamson of Rock of Zion, Larry J. "Joey" Crumpler of Piney Grove, and Fred Baker, who with his wife, Linda, will soon go to the Philippines.

Most of the ministers brought their wives and some of their families and we especially appreciate the fact that they would give the time and effort to make our week enjoyable.

Topics used at morning devotions showed ways to glorify God through prayer. Speakers included Clara Elmore, Hazel Stilley, Adaline Gray, and Bertha Thompson.

The emphasis at each day's Bible study was to glorify God through some phase of Auxiliary work. Versie Baldree emphasized fruit-bearing. Hulon Whitehead emphasized devotion by showing films of the Holy Land. On Thursday, in true Filipino-missionary style, the Rev. Ed Miles arrived via motorcycle, sporting an embroidered Filipino shirt, to show slides from his experiences overseas and make us truly aware of the need for carrying the gospel to the Philippines. Also on Thursday, Edna Fowler related her experiences in home missions work, and made us realize more fully the need for sharing the gospel in nearby areas, too.

Two bus trips proved to be real treats for the campers. Tuesday afternoon we boarded the Deep Run bus to accompany Earl Davis on a tour of Camp Vandemere, with commentary by the Rev. Willie Stilley. A highlight of the day on Wednesday was a trip into New Bern to our Tryon Palace. A special thank you goes to Ray Williamson for driving the bus.

The climax of Wednesday's activity was an especially enjoyable gospel singing. It was held outdoors, and we had many area visitors to hear "The Heaven Bound" from Kinston and "The Prescott Family" from New Bern. We appreciate all that they did. We are also grateful to the singers from Oriental, Mount Zion, Kinston, Gray Branch, Macedonia, Arapahoe, and Rock of Zion, who sang at other services during the week.

Crafts included macrame under the direction of Joan Outlaw from Kinston and Mamie Campbell from Rocky Mount; and huck weaving with Hazel Stilley from Bridgeton.

We were happy each day to have additional campers join us, some of whom spent one or two nights, and some of whom spent only several hours. We especially appreciate Annie Belle Hines, who led the singing on Tuesday; Dola Dudley, who introduced the speaker on Thursday night; Lisa Hudson and Ernie Ensley who sang for us; members of the Board of Directors and their wives who joined us at different times; Mrs. Jimmy Spruill who made the 4-day cake; and Reginald Caroon, who showed his mustard seed from the Holy Land. This conference was successful because of the people who participated. If any of them had been absent, it would have detracted from the blessings which we enjoyed.

Through donations and offerings we are able to add a little more than $1,300 to the Camp Vandemere treasury.

We are already looking forward to next year and hope that even more campers will join us. As we left, we determined to continue "To Glorify God;" and we felt that we as a group had become so united that we will continually practice our theme verse, Romans 15:6: "That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." If you hear someone singing or humming "From glory to glory He's changing me," you're probably very close to someone who attended the third annual Camp Vandemere Woman's Conference!

Happy Taylor, Director
Nina Grace Register, Reporter

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 11)

Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Elizabeth Jean Hayes by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Hubert A. Jones by Sarecta Free Will Baptist Women's Auxiliary, Kenansville.

Jaime Elizabeth Lee by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Michael Clark Lewis by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Dana McFatten by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Derek Parris by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

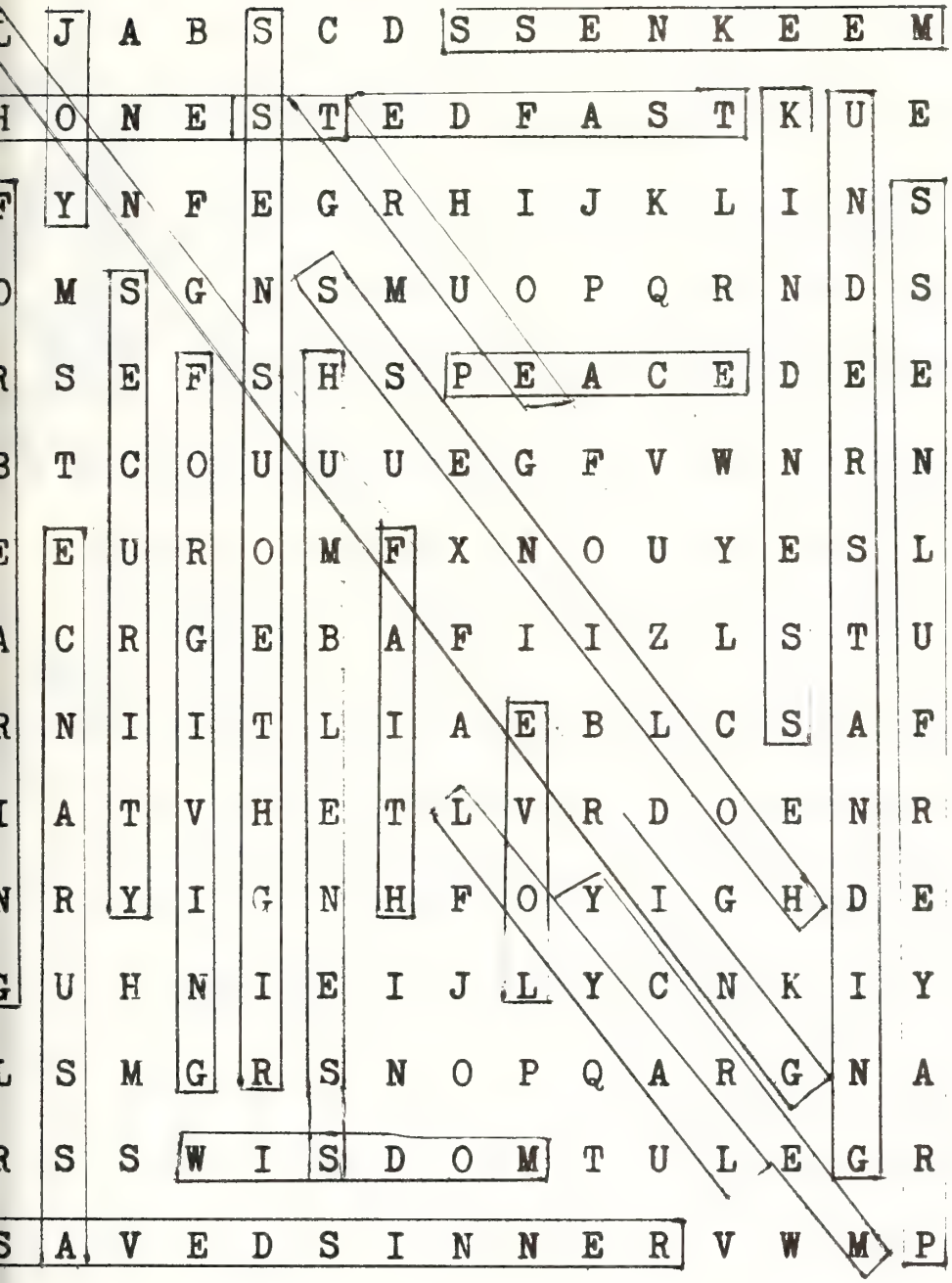
Robert Lewis Outlaw by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Richard Eugene Schiller by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Julie Ann Smith by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

ATTRIBUTES OF A CHRISTIAN

by Joyce Tilghman



Children's Home

SMYRNA YOUTH HOLD ROCK-A-THON FOR HOME

The youth of the Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church of Blounts Creek held a rock-a-thon on June 9. Eleven children rocked for hours. The end result was a contribution of $641.50 for the Children's Home.

Our boys and girls at the Home have a happier, more meaningful life because so many of our denomination's youth choose to share the proceeds of their local youth work with the Home. We urge all our youth to reach out to others as Christ first reached out and touched our lives.

CANTATA AT CHILDREN'S HOME

The choir of the Sherron Acres Free Will Baptist Church of Durham will present the John W. Peterson cantata "Love and Kindness" in Memorial Chapel, on the campus of the Children's Home, on Sunday, August 20, at 7 p. m. Everyone is invited to come and hear this commanding performance.

NEWS NOTES

Fred Baker Family to be at Angola Church

The Rev. Fred Baker family, missionary candidates, will be at the Angola Free Will Baptist Church, about 12 miles west of Jacksonville, in Onslow County, for the 7 p. m. worship service on Sunday, August 12. The pastor is the Rev. Willie Stilley of Bridgeton. Everyone is invited.

Ordination Service Planned For Ronnie Vann Hobgood

Ordination services are planned for Ronnie Vann Hobgood on Sunday, August 13, at 3 p. m. in the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church. The Rev. C. H. Overman, pastor, will preach the ordination sermon.

Ronnie is a Mount Olive College graduate and will be continuing his schooling at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson this fall.

He is currently serving Indian Springs Free Will Baptist Church at Seven Springs.

He is married to the former Mitzi Corbett of Ayden.

Rosebud Church Honors Pastor

The Rev. and Mrs. Jack Burnett were honored by the members of the Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, Route 4, Wilson, on Sunday afternoon, July 30, in

(Continued on Page 16)

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 15)

the fellowship building of the church. The members presented to them matching, engraved silver candle holders. Approximately fifty guests attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Burnett have been at Rosebud for the past two years. They became very active in all church activities from the very beginning.

The church dreamed of having a fellowship building, and the dream came true while Mr. Burnett was pastor. He and his wife worked long and faithfully to see that the building was completed.

They were leaders of the YFA and they worked dilgently with the young people of the church. Mrs. Burnett was the teacher for the Intermediate class. Under Mr. Burnett's leadership, the church founded a layman's league. Everyone was truly blessed by their untiring interest in people, young and old alike. The church truly appreciates their dedication and devotion. They will be greatly missed for the members came to love them dearly. Prayers go with them wherever God may lead them.

Free Will Baptist Singers To Appear in Concert

The youth of the Greenville and Winterville First Free Will Baptist Churches will be co-sponsoring an Outdoor Gospel Singing at the First Church, Greenville, 2600 Charles Street Extension, Highway 43, on Saturday, August 12, at 7 p. m. The featured group will be "Heaven Bound" from Kinston. Performing with them will be the popular group, "The Gospel Chargers" from Winterville, and a newly organized group, "Sonlite."

Sonlite is a group of young people from Winterville who will be attending Mount Olive College in the fall. Members of the group include Alice Hines, David Hines, and Bryant Hines.

All proceeds from the Singspiration will be given to the YFA state project for the year, which is College Hall at Mount Olive College. Tickets are $2 each, and may be obtained in advance from any YFA member of the two churches, or at the door fhe evening of the Singspiration.

The public is cordially invited to participate in this program of worship and fellowship.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Charles W. Sugg announces that he is available for pastoral services. He may be contacted by writing the Rev. Charles W. Sugg, Route 2, Box 609N, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530; or by phoning 735-8924 (day) or 735-4489 (night).

The Rev. Ronnie Lovin announces that he is now available for evangelistic or supply work. Mr. Lovin is an ordained minister in good standing with the Piedmont Conference. He is a member of the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, where the Rev. Walter Carter is pastor. Mr. Lovin's address is Route 3, Box 471-A, Rockingham, North Carolina 28379. His phone number is (919) 895-2134.

The Rev. E. Floyd Smith wishes to announce that he is available for pastoral work. His address is the Rev. E. Floyd Smith, Route 3, Box 199, Selma, North Carolina 27576. His telephone number is 965-5406.

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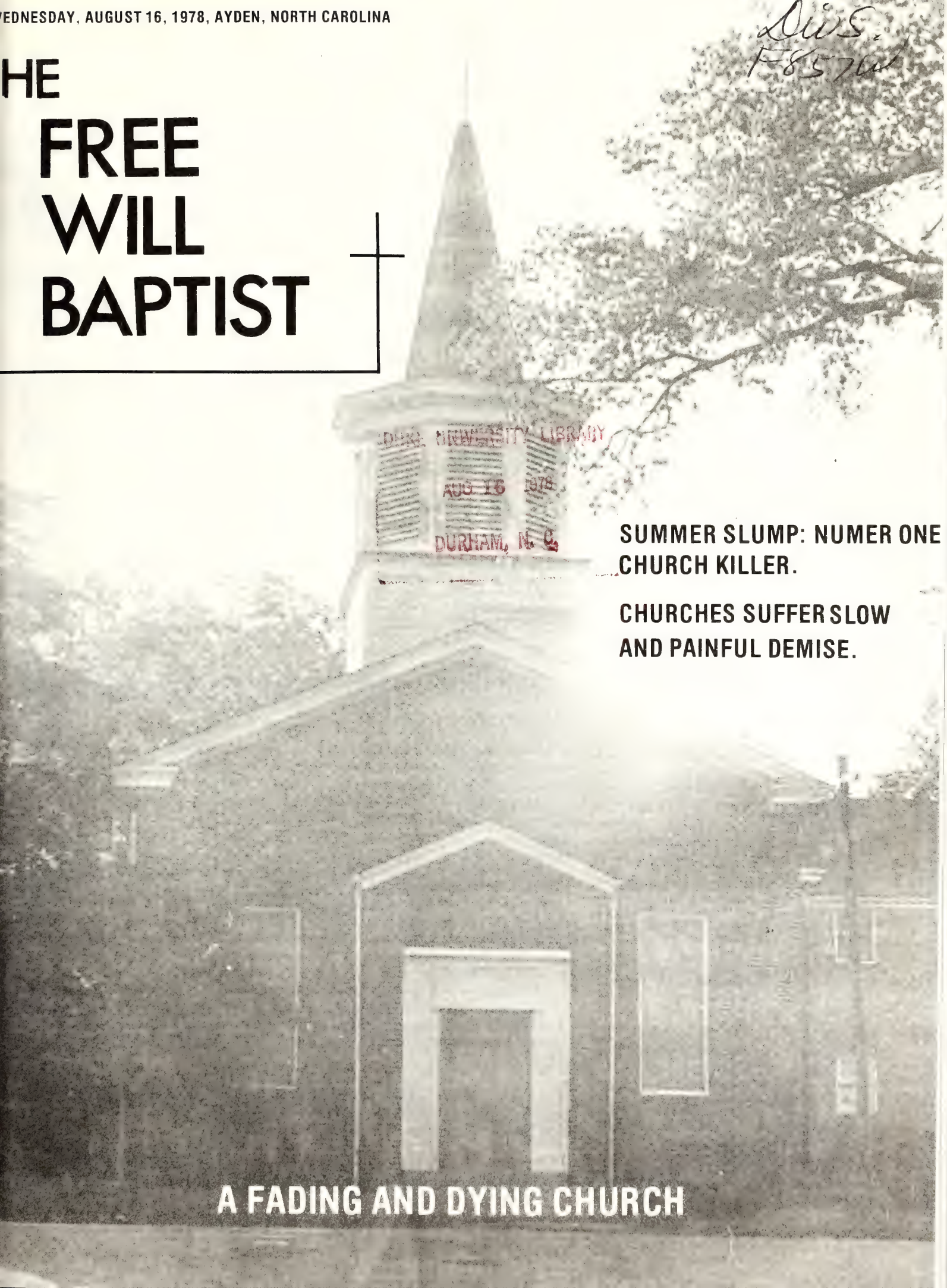
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SUMMER SLUMP: NUMER ONE CHURCH KILLER.

CHURCHES SUFFER SLOW AND PAINFUL DEMISE.

A FADING AND DYING CHURCH

Special Effects Cover Photo
by Scott Sowers

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SUMMER SLUMP
(Number One Church Killer)

A minister was heard to say, "If absence makes the heart grow fonder, *some people must really love Sunday school and church!*" The observation is certainly a good one, and is particularly appropriate during the summer months.

Why does summer find so many people lax in carrying out their churchly duties? Why are pews empty, or at best only partially filled? Why do Sunday night services come to a standstill, requiring some spectacular program or some pressing need to set them back into motion?

Let a crisis arise, and we rush to the church in supplication, fear and trembling, full of promise and praise, with hearts aflame, and souls overflowing. When the storm lifts and we're on our feet again, we wander the other way. Thus the cycle goes on and on.

The church is a refuge, and it *should* be a refuge—but not a bad-times' place of comfort! In our complacency, we leave it unattended, uncared for, and by our actions indicate that it is merely a convenience. We designate its obligations to others, disdaining to commit ourselves to any of its programs during the vacation months. We pledge our allegiance for the fall, intent on following through; but if everyone were like us, would there be any need to carry on services during the summer?

We won't be missed, we contend. There are other members who will support the work. The trouble with this attitude is that everyone seems to share it. And we feel certain that we *deserve* time away, because we work so hard. We somehow forget that other people work hard too.

Time away. Time away from God. This is a dangerous situation for one to find himself in. And while most sensible people realize that God dwells in majesty and that His name can be praised and His glory honored in places other than churches, it is important to remember His earthly tabernacle.

If one forsakes assembling with other Christians in God's house, he is depriving himself of spiritual unity, a kindred spirit, a fellowship hardly accessible elsewhere.

Probably some of the most discouraged ministers in the world are those who scan their congregations on Sunday mornings (or nights) and see that summer has taken its toll. Even the most faithful are guilty of abandoning him and the sanctuary at times; and when *they* leave, it is little wonder that the minister has difficulty putting heart and might into his sermons. Sometimes, though, *he* must accept some of the blame.

Impassioned pleas don't seem enough. The minister may implore attendance, pointing out the multitude of blessings that God has bestowed, reminding the parishioners of their commitment. But the people also have their gripe. The minister is not immune to error; he too falls short. Sometimes (perhaps because of summer fever) he waits until that last minute to choose his hymns—and, would you believe, *even his sermons*?

No, we are not making an about-face by placing a great deal of responsibility on the minister. Our point is that he, just as his members, must take care in exercising his duties and attending his charge. He should not fall victim to the summer slump, though he is as human as anybody else. Somehow, we expect more of him.

It would seem that all of us must consider a little more seriously the responsibility of church membership. Moreover, we must consider more seriously the obligation of Christian discipleship.

If the summer slump proves to be the number one church killer, consider the many churches which may be suffering a slow and painful demise. . . .

THE MINISTER AS A GENTLEMAN

W. Burkette Raper, President
Mount Olive College
(Presented to the North Carolina Ministerial Association of Original Free Will Baptists at Cragmont Assembly, July 18, 1978.)

Text

"Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God" (1 Corinthians 4:1). "Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, . . ." (2 Corinthians 6:3, 4).

The Ministry

IT goes without saying that the minister is a Christian, and it goes with this saying that he is a gentleman." Thus wrote Nolan B. Harmon in a book I would recommend for the careful reading and for the library of every pastor (**Ministerial Ethics and Etiquette**, Revised edition, Abingdon Press, Nashville).

The kind of person the minister is will go far in determining the range of people he can reach and the effectiveness of his ministry. In order that our ministry may have the broadcast outreach possible, ministers will do well to remember the admonition of Paul, that we are "ministers of God," and that we should give "no offence in anything, that the ministry be not blamed."

Without question a minister must first of all be a Christian for he is accountable to God for both his life and his work. But the minister is also a man and his ministry is to people. We must never forget that degree to which we can fulfill our calling is conditioned by the respect people have for us and whether or not they have confidence in us. In no situation is this truth more evident than in the Free Will Baptist Church where a minister may serve a church only by the invitation and continuing approval of a majority of the members.

Our commission is from God, but our mission is to go to people—all people: rich and poor, young and old, educated and uneducated, cultured and crude. In the words of Paul, our calling is to both: the Greek (civilized) and to the Barbarians (uncivilized), both to the wise and to the unwise (Romans 1:14). The ministry is a calling from God to serve man, and as such it is both private and public: private in that it is an individual experience with God, public in that the work of the minister is in the world of people.

I have never known a church that did not want its minister to be a gentleman.

"If urbane men of the world can achieve a high plane of courtesy and honor, surely the men of God can do no less. . . It is accepted as an axiom that every minister is a Christian gentleman," declared Bishop Harmon.

What Is a Gentleman?

The dictionary defines a gentleman as "a man of quality. . . a man whose conduct conforms to a certain standard of correct behavior." Katherine F. Gerould described a gentleman as a person who "will never let you down."

Think of the person whom you admire and respect most. What are his qualities? What are the things about him which stand out most in your mind? Personally refined, neatly dressed and groomed, gentle, honest, courteous, combining dignity and humility, a person whose word is his honor, a person who commands your respect and one whom you feel you can trust.

But the truest mark of a gentleman is the consideration he shows for others. Is this quality not also the essential mark of the minister? Indeed, does the very word "minister" not mean "servant?"

It has been my observation that the bigger the man, the more of a gentleman he is. We have had many distinguished people to visit Mount Olive College, but when I search my mind of the image of a gentleman, I think of a retired banker from Washington, D.C., who is chairman of an educational foundation that has contributed generously to Mount Olive College during recent years. When he comes on campus, his consideration for others commands your respect. He will not be seated if ladies are standing, he insists on being the last to enter a door; at meals he waits to be shown his place at the table; any communication with him through the mail brings a prompt reply; following every visit is a "thank you" letter, and if you visit him, he is even more hospitable.

I have observed that arrogance and pride are the marks of little men and that humility and service are characteristic of big men. The greatest of them all said, ". . . whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all," (Mark 10:43, 44). When his disciples failed to understand what he meant, Jesus took a towel and basin and washed their feet.

David Livingstone, the first Christian missionary to penetrate the heart of Africa with the gospel, did not consider it irreverent to think of Jesus as a gentleman. On January 14, 1856, he wrote in his journal.

> Evening. Felt much turmoil of spirit in prospect of having all my plans for the welfare of this great region and this teeming population knocked on the head by savages tomorrow. But I read that Jesus said: 'All power is given me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.' **It is the word of a gentleman** of the most strict and sacred honour, so that's an end of it! (Italics added).

Turn the Page

On the assurance that the promise in the Great Commission was the word of a Gentleman, Livingstone staked his all.

That the Ministry Be Not Blamed

In the military an officer may be court-martialed for "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman." This charge is reserved for those who bring dishonor upon their rank and their country. What might be the consequences if we had a provision in our Statement of Discipline to deal with "conduct unbecoming a minister and a gentleman?"

The ministry should be the most respected of all professions, and we have no right to accept this calling if we are going to bring dishonor to it.

Being a gentleman has never damaged or hindered a man in the ministry, but failure to be a gentleman has weakened and destroyed the effectiveness of many ministers. We can neither win nor effectively serve people who do not respect us. Our ministry to the spiritual life of people is seriously retarded when those whom we would serve find it necessary to apologize to their friends for our personal appearance or manner of conduct.

Let us walk worthy of our high calling, and let us keep foremost in our minds the charge of Paul, "Giving no offence in anything, that the ministry be not blamed: but in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God."

After the War Between the States, General Robert E. Lee was penniless but his reputation was in high esteem. It is reported that he was approached by a well-backed financial firm that wanted to use his name as president. Lee was to have no duties but was offered an attractive salary for the use of his name. Lee listened to the presentation and replied simply, "I have nothing left but my name, and that is not for sale."

****

CAUSES FOR CONCERN

by De W. Eakes

This article is written out of genuine concern for the future of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination of North Carolina. This writer is one who has been reared in the Original Free Will Baptist Church; licensed to preach June 21, 1964; and ordained to the gospel ministry by the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists October 14, 1965. I feel a great need to speak to a matter of "dollars and cents" in a manner which hopefully will make "sense" to both laity and clergy.

The subject is the minister's remuneration for services rendered as a servant called of God and professionally "worthy of his hire." Many people feel that when a minister who has given years of time, money, effort, and personal and family sacrifice to preparation, asks for a decent and reasonable salary he is being mercenary and/or unfaithful to his calling. Responding to the divine call to the ministry is not synonymous with accepting a "vow of poverty." The minister who does not receive and then work faithfully to deserve a reasonable salary is being a poor steward as regards his family responsibilities. Likewise churches who refuse to pay a "just" salary are failing in their responsibility to support their minister. A good and faithful servant is "worthy of his hire."

A recent article published in **The Free Will Baptist**, written by Beverly Croskery, sheds light on this subject. In a multi-denominational cross-section, 200 responses to a 1977 survey revealed an average salary of $11,000 per year. The J. C. Griffin Brotherhood conducted a similar survey in 1977 among North Carolina Original Free Will Baptist clergy. This survey, with 28 clergy responding, disclosed an average salary of $8,100 per year (this is prior to the payment of Social Security and income taxes). The age ranged from some of our youngest ministers to the most seasoned veterans of the pastorate. Education ranged from high school graduate to those holding seminary degrees. Churches ranged from small half-time churches to our largest full-time churches. The salary range was from a low of $3,200 (half-time student pastor) to a high of $15,000 (full-time with limited staff help). This year we have a few churches in various conferences whose pay scale has slightly exceeded the 1977 high figure. However the vast majority remain far below this figure.

A common fallacy of Pulpit Committees (a very difficult position in which to serve) is to try to hire a minister for the lowest possible salary. Very little thought is given to what is a reasonable salary for the type of minister and ministry a church needs. A better and more Christian approach is to ask what is reasonable for us to pay in order to get a man to do the job we need and provide a good living for him and his family. A minister's training, years of experience and past performance should also figure into the salary he is paid by the congregation he is called to serve and lead.

More and more of our churches are granting ministers a standing annual "cost of living" raise. This is good in that it at least keeps him from getting further behind each year financially. If a minister does not get at least an annual cost of living raise he is actually falling behind. We must be realistic and Christian in this very crucial matter. In sending out the 72 in Luke 10:1-12 Christ said in v. 7, ". . . the labourer is worthy of hir hire." Paul, on several occasions, had to resort to "tent-making" in order to materially sustain himself. The majority of his ministry was adequately financed by the young Christian church. The Philippian letter is replete with Paul's gratitude for their gracious support of his ministry.

There are some times and situations in which "tent-making" is a necessity. However, there are fewer and fewer instances each year where this is true. There are even fewer instances where this would be true if the membership of our congregations adhered to our

doctrine of tithing. "Tent-making" is a severe limitation on the minister. It is an even greater hindrance to effective ministry. No person, regardless of how sincere and dedicated that person may be, can adequately handle two full-time jobs simultaneously. Many good ministers have worked themselves to an early grave and shortened their ministry due to "tent-making" and full-time ministry trying to be good providers for their families. In such instances the minister, his family, the local church and the entire denomination are short-changed.

Based on our denominational resources, which are its people, our present societies self-adopted standards of living, and the needs of our churches, I humbly offer the following suggestion as a base line for minister's salaries. A part-time church should have a beginning salary of $5,200 per year in addition to a mutually agreeable housing arrangement. Full-time churches should have a beginning salary of $10,400 for a full-time ministry in addition to a mutually agreeable housing arrangement. Full retirement of $600 through our Board of Superannuation should also be provided for the minister. How sad it is for a minister to give his life to the Lord in the Original Free Will Baptist Church and have to spend his retirement years in penury or on the Social Services rolls! Or keep struggling to serve churches when he becomes physically unable to cope with the demands of the pastorate.

Again, this writer speaks, not as one with wisdom, but one who has simply been taught by that demanding teacher, "Experience," and as one who has a very deep and growing concern for the people who are the laity and clergy of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. We indeed have a proud and worthy heritage and I believe we can meet this internal need adequately!

We cannot afford to continue to lose good ministers to other denominations nor do we need more "tent-making" among the clergy. We need more clergy who can and will devote their full time and energies to the fulfilling of "the Call to the Ministry," and at the same time be able to adequately provide for their family needs. I believe that the realization of this goal will greatly enhance the work of God in our local congregations, denominational enterprises and institutions, and the quality of living and ministry of our clergy. A sound financial base will serve to encourage and produce a more responsible and effective ministry and leadership for the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: Please explain the seeming discrepancy found in ". . . David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver" (2 Samuel 24:24); "So David gave to Ornan for the place six hundred shekels of gold by weight" (1 Chronicles 21:25).

Answer: Scholars do not all agree how this apparent discrepancy occurred and what may be the final answer to it. Generally it is conceded by the scholars I have consulted that in 2 Samuel 24:24 we have the account and the purchase price given when the right to use a portion of the ground the oxen were bought whereas in 1 Chronicles 21:25 we have the whole price, not for a limited portion of the land, but for all that was used when the temple was constructed, extending beyond the bounds of that bought when the oxen were purchased.

The following is that found on Page 390 of **Alleged Discrepancies of the Bible** by John W. Haley:

"Of a variety of explanations, three may be adduced: (1) That we have here a copyist's mistake, which could very easily happen. (2) That the first passage gives the price of the **oxen** simply, thus: "So David bought the threshing-floor, and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver." The phraseology of the second passage, "So David gave to Ornan **for the place**," etc., seems to favor this view. (3) That David purchased, first, the threshing-floor—a plat of ground "probably not 100 feet in diameter," with the oxen; then, afterwards, be-thought himself to buy the place, "maqom,"—the whole hill of Moriah,—for which latter he paid "600 shekels of gold."

Any of these possibilities seem feasible to many students of the Bible.

The following is found in George H. Sandison's **1000 Difficult Bible Questions Answered**:

"The discrepancy has often been pointed out. The probable explanation is in the attitude of the two writers. The writer of Chronicles is believed to have been an officer of the Temple, perhaps a singer. In all his work he goes into the most minute details about the Temple. It evidently engrossed his life and filled his thoughts. The Temple, as you know, was built on this ground of Araunah's. David probably purchased the threshing floor, as Samuel says, for fifty shekels; but afterward deciding that the Temple should be built there, he bought the whole hill, as the chronicler says, for six hundred shekels. The chronicler, with his mind on the Temple, makes the latter payment his record."

Even though we find a few unexplainable apparent discrepancies in the Bible as it has come down to us in its purest form, outstanding scholars assert repeatedly that the whole of God's message as found in the original manuscripts that we now have in various forms is now available to us.

Coming Events . . .

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as State Convention Promotional Work

August 14-25—The Third Annual Pastor's Conference, Carolina Bible Institute, Pine Level, North Carolina

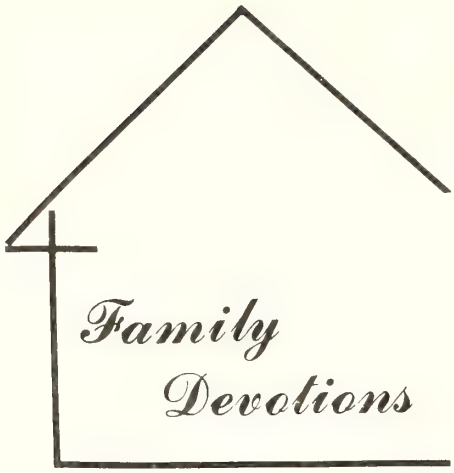
August 21—Residence Halls Open, Mount Olive College

August 22—Educational Advising, Mount Olive College

August 23—Board of Directors of Children's Home Meeting, 9 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

August 23—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 11 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

August 23—Board of Directors of Retirement Homes Meeting, 1 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex



SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

Scripture Reading—Romans 2:27

GOD'S HARMONY

Everything that God has made was created "in tune,"—the voice of man, the whisper of the wind, the laughter of little brooks and the throb of the great ocean. Nature is harmony, the maintenance of right relations between every living thing. If we listen with hearing ears and observe with seeing eyes, we shall discover that everything in Nature is full of melody and is alive with divine rhythms, from the harmonious growth of the budding leaves to the swing of the great planets about their lord, the sun.

Not only is the expression of music universal in Nature but also in man. Longfellow has fittingly put it that "Music is the universal language of mankind." Music has always been the inspiration and the message-bearer for all peoples from the time when Pan blew the first note upon his reed-pipe to the cathedral organ of today.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What greater sound than the songs of the church being sung today! What greater way to praise the Lord!

MONDAY, AUGUST 21

Scripture Reading—Romans 1:26

SUMMER IS HERE

Listen!
Summer is here;
Tune in your ear
To the song of the lark;
To the sounds in the dark;
To the symphony played
In the deep forest glade;
Come, join the gray breeze
In its dance through the trees;
To the sweet scented clover,
Come, bumblebees, over
To sup at the dawn
Where the shy spotted fawn
Drinks deep of the stream,
As the sun sheds its beam;
God's love for the world
In each fern that's unfurled,
The message is clear
Summer is here;
Listen!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Summer began June 21, but it is still being summer. There's time to enjoy that which God has provided us with.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 22:6

LIFE BEGINS AT SEVENTY

Between the ages of 70 and 83 Commodore Vanderbilt added about 100 million to his fortune.

Kant at 74 wrote his "Anthropology, Metaphysics of Ethics and Strife of the Faculties."

Tintoretto at 74 painted the vast Paradise canvas 74 feet by 30.

Verdi at 74 produced his masterpiece "Othello;" at 80, "Falstaff" and at 85 the famous "Ave Maria," "Stabat Mater," and "Te Deum."

Lamarck at 78 completed his great zoological work, "The Natural History of the Invertebrates."

Oliver Wendell Holmes at 79 wrote "Over the Teacups."

Cato at 80 began the study of Greek.

Goethe at 80 completed "Faust."

Tennyson at 83 wrote "Crossing the Bar."

Titian at 98 painted his historic picture of the "Battle of Lepanto."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it great how God has blessed these men in their old age to produce some great works of art to the world.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 2:3

"ALL I MEANT TO DO!"

Said yesterday to to-morrow:
"When I was young like you,
I, too, was fond of boasting
Of all I meant to do.
But while I feel a-dreaming
Along the pleasant way,
Before I scarcely knew it,
I found I was to-day!

"And as to-day, so quickly
My little course was run,
I had not time to finish
One-half the things begun.
Would I could try it over,
But I can ne'er go back;
A yesterday forever,
I now must be, alack!

"And so, my good to-morrow,
If you would make a name
That history shall cherish
Upon its roll of fame,
Be all prepared and ready
Your noblest part to play
In those new fleeting hours
When you shall be to-day "

PRAYER THOUGHT

God wants His children to do today all that they can do, and not put off things for tomorrow, as tomorrow never comes to many people.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18;17

DOES YOUR BIBLE
MAKE YOU SNEEZE?

Recently I got a peculiar application of the serious text found in Numbers 32:23, "Be sure your sin will find you out" when in a home of a nominal professor. It is nice, when one enters a home, to find several Bibles in that home, scattered here and there.

I picked up the nice, fine Bible which had been received as a present years before and in a little while I began to sneeze. Upon examination I found that the opening of the Bible

caused some dust to arise and tickle my nasal passages. I could tell that the Bible had not been dusted for a long time and that it was used only as an ornament. It was a sign of neglect when the dust arose from the Book on the beautiful parlor stand. It might be a good thing to ask ourselves: "If we opened our Bibles, would the dust make us sneeze?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

If we opened our Bible, would the dust fly from it or would all those belongings fall from it as Grandmother's picture or Susie's ribbon? Do we use our Bible for a gathering place? We should read it daily instead.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 5:17

LINCOLN'S BIBLE

Abraham Lincoln's well-thumbed Bible in the Lincoln Museum in Washington, among other things, would abundantly prove that he was a Christian. Listen to him, as on his way to be inaugurated, he utters these impressive words:

"I go to assume a task more difficult than that which has devolved upon other man since the days of Washington. He never would have succeeded but for the aid of Divine Providence, upon which he at all times replied. I feel that I cannot succeed without the same divine blessing which sustained him, and on the same Almighty Being I place my reliance for support. And I hope you, my friends, will all pray that I may receive the divine assistance without which I cannot succeed, but with which success is certain."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Prayer and Bible reading help in our occupations as we work. We should thank God for letting us work from day to day with good health and happiness.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

Scripture Reading—Psalm 100:1

"LIFT UP YOUR HEART!"

We thank thee, Lord, for all thy love,
For countless blessings from above;
From north to south, from east to west,
Thy glories shine, and man is blest.

In every zone, in every clime,
We hear thy praise its happy chime;
For sun and moon and radiant stars,
And all the glory night unbars.

For every flower that decks the way,
For all the birds with songs so gay,
For smiles upon each human face,
For all thy wondrous love and grace.

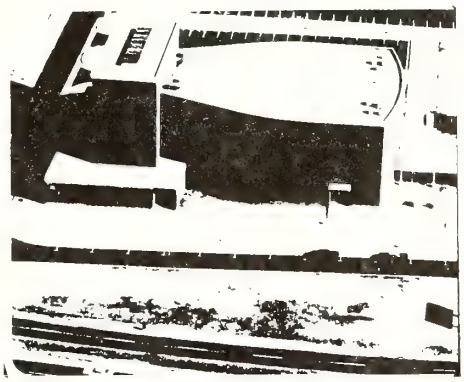
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice,
Give thanks to God, rejoice, rejoice!
Into his courts we'll make our way,
And praise him on Thanksgiving Day!

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should praise God every day by doing what pleases Him. Let every day be a day of thanksgiving.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

STATE CONVENTION TO MEET IN FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, SEPTEMBER 13, 14, 1978



Exterior of Building

Our Convention along with the Wednesday night, Mission Rally has grown, thus requiring larger places for meeting than most of our churches can accomodate. The Executive Committee selected the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville, North Carolina, for this our sixty-sixth annual setting.

The Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium is rather new, fully air-conditioned with a seating capacity for more than 2,400, a convenient display area, plenty of meeting rooms, excellent sound, and paved parking area for 2,000 cars. This certainly proves to be more than adequate for the convention.



Interior of Building

This year we are expecting the largest attendance ever, as many of our churches, delegates, and pastors are getting ready for our 1978 State Convention of Churches.

All churches with activity buses, should be making plans to bring a load for the Wednesday night, Mission Rally. Some will be chartering big buses as well as setting up motorcades to attend what will possibly be the largest gathering of Original Free Will Baptists in history.

Remember, each church should send its pastor and his wife as well as its delegates. Your selection of delegates should be persons who can attend the entire convention, **not just the first day**. Every church representing may send a delegate for every 100 members or fraction thereof.

When delegates and ministers arrive at the auditorium, you will receive a booklet of reports. This booklet will help to save time, giving us opportunity to hear what the speaker is saying instead of trying to hear over those passing out materials. You will also be provided with an announcement screen so the president and secretary will not be taking up valuable time to make simple announcements. A central information desk will be located in the display area to assist anyone with any questions on locations as well as convention facilities. Should anyone be expecting a call, you will be able to leave this information at the desk, you will be informed immediately upon receipt of such. You may also want to leave where you are staying in case someone needs to get in touch with you. We will try to make this convention the best yet.

To miss this convention is to miss one of the best opportunities to help your church advance for Christ!

Auxiliaries in Action

EASTERN DISTRICT WOMAN'S CONFERENCE

The Eastern District Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere is growing each year. The first conference was three years ago, and had seven full-week campers. This summer the number has grown to twenty-seven. There were many that joined us during the days for devotions, crafts, music, Bible study, and lunch. Attendance for the evening services was very good. Mr. Earl Davis, drove the Deep Run bus and the Rev. W.E. Stilley took the campers on the tour of Vandemere and the campus. We toured the home of Mrs. Forrest and the gardens of Mrs. Lupton. On Thursday the campers went to Tryon Palace in New Bern.

Happy Taylor and Nina Grace Register, co-directors, send their thanks to everyone who helped to make our conference a great success. A special thanks to the ministers that preached the inspiring and uplifting messages each evening, for the church choirs, the Heaven Bounds and the Prescott Family for the beautiful singing, for the ladies that gave the devotions, special singing and crafts. Last, but not least, our thanks to the kitchen staff that served us those delicious meals.

The district officers attending were Happy Taylor, president; Rena Kirk, vice president; visiting during the week were Adaline Gray, mission chairman; Faye Sutton, field secretary; Velma Morris, treasurer, Mrs. Rom Mallard, assistant treasurer; Mrs. Matthew Prescott, secretary; and Mrs. Lib Simpson, assistant secretary. Mrs. S. W. McCoy, study course chairman, was there also. We were happy to have Mrs. Dola Dudley, Mrs. Ruth Warrick, and Mrs. Nina Register, state officers, to camp with us. Visiting state officers were Mrs. Rose Raper and Mrs. Alice Barrow. Our thanks to the Rev. Ed Miles, for showing us the movies of his mission work in the Philippines. A special thanks also goes to Hulon Whitehead for showing us the movies of his trip to the Holy Land.

Money received at Camp Vandemere, amounted to $1,307.07.

You just have to be present to appreciate the Woman's Conference at Camp Vandemere.

Submitted by,
Mrs. Rena Kirk

NORTH CAROLINA FREE WILL BAPTIST WOMAN'S AUXILIARY
CONVENTION TREASURER'S REPORT
END OF FIRST QUARTER, JULY 31, 1978

Balance in Bank, April 30, 1978			$ 4,016.30
Receipts			
General Fund:			
Per Capita Dues	$ 73.70		
Registration Fees	410.00		
Contributions	32.73		
Life Award Fees	10.00		
Promotional (CSF)	99.04	$ 625.47	
Denominational Enterprises		6,595.01	
Total Receipts (*)			7,220.48
Total for Which to Account			11,236.78
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		1,004.80	
Denominational Enterprises		6,595.01	
Total Disbursed (*)			7,599.81
Balance in Bank, July 31, 1978			$ 3,636.97
Banks			
Branch Banking and Trust Co. (checking)			$ 636.97
Church Finance Association			3,000.00
Total			$3,636.97

(*) Total receipts this quarter include all monies received at the State Convention. Total disbursements include allocation made by the Convention. For itemized list see the report of the Finance Committee in the minutes.

Denominational Enterprise Report

	Itemize	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions)		$1,005.50	$1,005.50
Foreign Missions (general)		187.06	187.06
Designated:			
Mexico:	$210.00		
Baker	243.23		
Bibles for India	26.75	479.98	479.98
State Project (Equally divided among Mrs. Link, Timmons, King, and Baker)		648.16	648.16
Central Conference Missions		10.00	10.00
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	25.00		
Alice E. Lupton Scholarship	22.00		
Gymnasium	20.00		
Books	15.00		
State Project	367.99	449.99	449.99
F.W.B. Children's Home:			
General Fund	337.89		

Clothing	355.00		
Allowance	15.00		
Child Support	260.00		
Playground Equipment	30.00		
Birthday Fund	10.00		
Child to Cragmont	50.00		
State Project	936.01	1,993.90	1,993.90
Superannuation		81.19	81.19
Cragmont Assembly:			
Building Fund		687.30	687.30
Retirement Homes, Inc.		97.73	97.73
Anna Phillips Loan Fund		22.84	22.84
Life Membership Fees (Cragmont)		40.00	40.00
Christian Service Fund: (*)			
Missions	198.08		
Mount Olive College	198.08		
Children's Home	148.56		
Cragmont	148.56		
Superannuation	99.04		
Retirement Homes	99.04	891.36	891.36
Totals		$6,595.01	$6,595.01

(*) 10 percent retained for promotional (see Receipts $99.04)

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser, Treasurer

"WOMAN'S AUXILIARY DAY" OBSERVED

On fifth Sunday in July, it was quite a day at the Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church of near Greenville. It was known as "Woman's Auxiliary Day." Even the gathering together of the people for their regular Sunday school hour seemed to take on a new interest and the fellowship one with another was increased as they watched the president or the vice president of the auxiliary pin a lovely corsage on each auxiliary member, as she arrived. The flowers for these and also for those used at the chancel of the church for the worship hour were grown and made, or arranged, by some of the auxiliary members. The names of all the auxiliary members were listed in the bulletins that were given out for the day.

At the beginning of the worship hour, the new pastor, the Rev. Bobby Taylor announced that the day was being observed as "Woman's Auxiliary Day"; that the flowers were given and placed in the church by the auxiliary in memory of all its deceased members and in honor of all present members. He also made everyone aware that those wearing corsages were auxiliary members. He made timely and praiseworthy remarks concerning the work of the auxiliary and its willingness and ableness to always come to the rescue when the need presented itself.

A trio, "He Won My Heart," and a duet, "Jesus, I Love You," were rendered during the morning worship services by members of the auxiliary.

DONNA POWELL IN VENEZUELA IN INTER-VARSITY MISSIONS

Donna Powell, daughter of Mrs. Peggy Walker and the late Willie Bruce Powell, is one of 82 Inter-Varsity students spending the summer in 38 foreign countries. Donna is a member of Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dover, North Carolina, and is a rising junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Donna's interest in missions is a direct result of her work in the youth groups in her local church. Here she participated in and was winner of local, district, and state declamation and essay competitions based upon the topic of missions.

Student Training in Missions (STIM) is a 9-month internship in cross-cultural ministry. These 82 students attended their first session in cross-cultural orientation last January. For the next five months, they attended sessions, read books, got to know international students from "their assigned country" and corresponded with "their missionary." Donna was assigned to Venezuela, South America, to work with a missionary and national leaders there to receive training in communicating the gospel of Christ across cultural barriers. She left North Carolina in early June and will be returning in mid-August. In September the 82 students will gather at Inter-Varsity's five regional training centers for debriefing and evaluation.

Inter-Varsity runs the STIM Program because there are 2.7 billion people in the world who have never heard that Jesus Christ died for them. About 2 billion never will hear unless someone moves across cultural barriers to communicate the gospel to them. Inter-Varsity believes that God will move many of today's students to be the solution to the task of world evangelization. The STIM Program was developed to train effective cross-cultural witnesses, to stimulate awareness and involvement in world missions among Inter-Varsity students, and to encourage students to commit themselves to a life of cross-cultural ministry.

Donna has written back to her home church, which helped to provide the financial assistance necessary for her work. They are uplifting her in their prayers, and are looking forward to having her share her experiences in Venezuela upon her return in August. This missionary effort by one of its members is an inspiration to the church.

Coming Events . . .

August 23—Registration, Mount Olive College

August 24—Classes Begin, Mount Olive College

August 25, 26—Piedmont Conference

August 27—Convocation, Mount Olive College

NEWS & NOTES

Reception Given to Welcome And Honor New Pastor and Family



The Rev. Bobby Taylor Family

On the fourth Sunday afternoon in July from three to five p. m. a reception was held in the fellowship building of the Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, near Greenville, to welcome and honor their new pastor, the Rev. Bobby Taylor, his wife, Audrey, and her sister, Erika.

Those attending were greeted by the chairman of the deacon board and his wife who then introduced both the people and the honorees to one another.

The fellowship hall and the refreshment table were beautifully decorated with arrangements of summer cut flowers. Everyone seemed to enjoy the refreshments served and the wonderful fellowship.

There is hope that the pastor and his family and the people of the church, having made acquaintances early, will have a wonderful time in serving the Lord together.

Pastor and Superintendent Banquet, King's Restaurant

On Friday night, September 8, there will be a special treat for Sunday school superintendents and pastors of the state. The North Carolina State Sunday School Convention is sponsoring a Pastor's and Superintendent's Banquet in an effort to bring the superintendents across the state closer together.

The banquet will be held at King's Restaurant in Kinston, with registration beginning at 7 p. m. The meal will be served at 7:30 and will consist of a ham supper.

All pastors are invited and are asked to encourage their Sunday school superintendents and assistants to attend. A special guest speaker will be on hand.

The State Sunday School Executive Committee respectively requests the cooperation of everyone involved in their effort to bring our pastors and superintendents together for this banquet.

YFA News Stancil's Chapel Church



Group Goes to Cragmont.

There is a fine, active group of young people at Stancil's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Wilson. Their first event of this year was an Easter pageant entitled, ''Grandpa's Gone'' which they presented the first Sunday night in April. Its theme was the Rapture of the church. There was a great spiritual awakening in this service. Twelve young people accepted Christ and were baptized the third Sunday afternoon in April.

Then, after enjoying a very successful Bible school, the third week of June, the YFA went to the park in Smithfield for a picnic and recreational period the fourth Sunday.

In the past several years there have been money raising campaigns to help send some of the YFA boys and girls to Cragmont, and this year was no different. The youth started another one of their projects last fall selling popcorn, candy, and donuts. Since there are always some members who couldn't visit Cragmont for an entire week, one of the youth leaders suggested that they have a weekend spiritual retreat. A yard sale was given in order to help support this adventure.

With all the projects done, on Friday morning, July 21, at 8, twenty-seven young people and twenty-three adults excitedly boarded the bus for Cragmont. They arrived at 2:15 p. m., and from then until 6 they enjoyed games and climbing a mountain. After supper, a campfire service was conducted by the Rev. Douglas Skinner. This service was very inspiring.

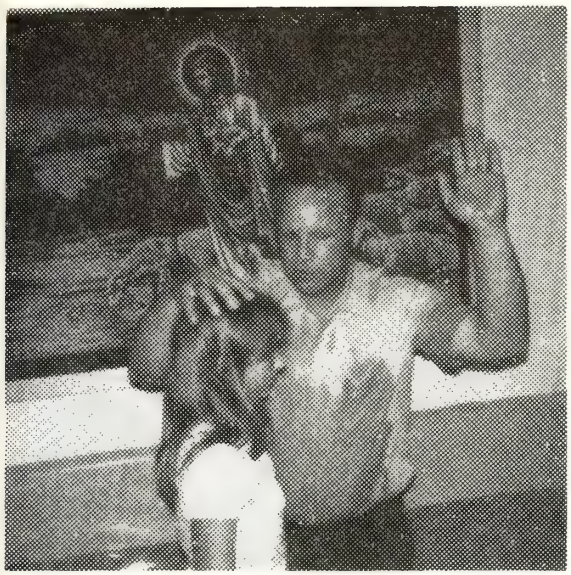
On Saturday, they visited Gatlinburg. At Christus Gardens, they all received a special blessing from the scenes of the life, death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Christ. Then they returned to Cragmont for another evening of fellowship.

The pastor of the church is the Rev. J. B. Godwin.

Revival in Progress Piney Grove Church, Roper

Revival services are in progress at the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Roper, through August 19. Services begin at 7:30 p. m. The evangelist is the Rev. Jimmy Webster. Special music is provided for each service. The pastor, the Rev. Billy Reynolds, invites to all to attend the remaining services.

Continued on Page 15



SOUL WINNING

STATE MISSION RALLY



SUMMER CAMP FOR DEAF CHILDREN

Come and See the Big Picture Concerning Home Missions and Church Extension

This will be the best opportunity that we have ever had to show what Home Missions and Church Extension is doing for Free Will Baptists.

Please come to our State Mission Rally to be held at the Cumberland Memorial Auditorium on Wednesday night, September 13, located on 301 South of Fayetteville.



BUILDING CHURCHES

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Taylor Hill, Director-Treasurer

HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For August 27

TOWARD AN UNHINDERED GOSPEL

Lesson Text: Acts 28:16, 17, 21-31
Memory Verse: Romans 1:16

I. INTRODUCTION

Paul had purposed to come to Rome after the visit he was making to Jerusalem (Acts 19:21). He had not, we may be sure, anticipated arriving in Rome as a prisoner. However, the purpose for God for him was that he "bear witness" in Rome (Acts 23:11). Although he had been warned over and over by the Holy Spirit that "bonds and afflictions," prison and trouble, awaited him in Jerusalem, Paul remained determined, bound apparently by the spirit of his own will to go there (Acts 20:22-24; 21:10-14). Indeed he was bound and imprisoned and suffered affliction. But God was able to "work out" events so that Paul did come to Rome. Within this framework we can see that by remaining faithful, over all, to God and His way, we can be sure that ultimately what He purposes for us and through us will be accomplished.

So here Paul was a prisoner in the greatest city in the Roman Empire. Permitted to live in his own hired house he continued a vital and effective ministry, though he was not at liberty to leave nor to move about apart from a guard and, probably, a chain. Here, however, he helped in the conversion of Onesimus, a runaway slave. From his prison at Rome, he wrote his letter to Philemon and those we now know as Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians. The confinement of Paul in a Roman prison did not impede the power and blessing flowing from his spirit free in God.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Paul and those who were with him on the ship escaped from the wreck and found safety on the island of Melita. It is commonly known as Malta, a tiny island of ninety-five square miles, about sixty miles south of Sicily. At the time, the natives did not speak Greek, so Luke, the writer of Acts, calls them barbarous.

B. The group spent three months —November, December, and January —in Malta, yet Luke recorded only two incidents that happened while they were there. The first occurred as soon as they reached land. The natives were very kind and were building a fire for them and Paul, always industrious and full of energy, went out to help them by gathering some sticks. A poisonous snake bit Paul and, as many heathen peoples, the natives thought this was a sign that Paul was a criminal. They were sure that he would soon fall over dead. When the snake fell off Paul's hand into the fire and Paul suffered no damage, the natives were greatly impressed.

C. The second event is the healing of Publius' father. Publius was the chief man on the island, and his father suffered from a fever and dysentery (v. 8). After prayer, Paul laid hands on him and he was healed. The people were so impressed that many others who were sick came, seeking to be healed (v. 9). It is likely that those who came were healed.

D. The group was able to get passage on a ship of Alexandria, which had wintered in Malta. From Malta, they sailed to Syracuse in Sicily, then to Rhegium on the toe of Italy, and finally to Puteoli in the Bay of Naples. Puteoli was the principal port in southern Italy, and a chief port for discharging grain from Egypt. Paul found some Christians living in Puteoli, where he stayed for a week. The Christians in Rome had heard about Paul's arrival and came to meet him.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. This lesson brings us to the close of the Book of Acts. It has been an exciting and informative series of study. We have seen the mighty hand of God, as in last Sunday's lesson, bring deliverance to His own. We have also seen how many of the early Christians suffered pain and death for the cause of Christ. Through it all we have witnessed the truth of Jesus' words, that the gates of hell cannot hold back the onward march of His glorious church.

B. Satan and his forces of evil still try to hinder the gospel and in many ways have succeeded. His successes are usually the result of our negligence and failure to go forth with the Good News into all the world. His successes have also resulted from our lack of dedication to the separated life for Christ. We shall stand in the judgment one day and account for the way our lives have hindered the gospel.

C. In this final lesson, we will see how the gospel was unhindered, even in Rome, the seat of earthly power and might. The dedication of Paul and those who labored with him in the moral vineyard of our Lord in that faraway city kept it unhindered. Let us listen to Paul as he flings these words in Rome's face: "I glory not in kings, but in the cross of Christ, for it is the power!"

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

D. This lesson shows Paul's great love for his brethren, the Jews. Even though they opposed him and caused him great suffering and frustration, he followed the plan of first going to the Jews with the gospel wherever he went. How many of us would have done this under the same circumstances? Paul's love for his brethren never seemed to

falter. Do you love your brethren in the flesh that much?

E. Paul is perhaps our greatest example as a witness for the gospel of Christ. He went from city to city with the message. He witnessed in front of all kinds of public officials: in the streets, from the steps of public buildings, in the synagogues, in prisons—all kinds of places. He witnessed to the gospel of Christ when he was sick and when he was in pain from having been beaten; he never seemed to stop. Yet some of us seldom give any witness of this wonderful gospel of Christ!

F. One of Paul's great beliefs was that man should work. He worked and made his own living, even when he had a right to call on the churches he served. He worked and made his own living even when he was in the Roman prison. Can you imagine Paul refusing to work because charity was available to him? He did take charity once, when an offering was sent to him from the Philippian church, so we are not trying to say that to take charity is wrong. But it is also right to work and provide for ourselves, to the full extent of our abilities.

G. The Gospel of Luke was an unfinished story, so Luke wrote the Book of Acts to tell us of the continued work of the Lord Jesus Christ in building His church. But the Book of Acts also leaves some questions unanswered. The work of building the church is still going on, and the full story will not be known until the Lord comes back to receive His own unto Himself.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

Children's Home

ONE WAY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE HOME

This summer the Revelators of Wadesville, Indiana, came to North Carolina to visit friends on our campus. While here they sang for us at the Home and several local churches.

The Revelators have volunteered to come back to North Carolina and sing concerts to raise funds for the Children's Home during November of this year. This would be a unique way for some of our churches and youth groups to raise money for the Home. You could sell tickets to the sing or advertise it and take free will offerings.



The Revelators

If there are churches or groups interested in this project please write or call us as soon as possible so that plans can be made: The Executive Director, Free Will Baptist Children's Home, P. O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557, or phone 235-2161.

MOUNT OLIVE

MEMORIAL GIFTS TO MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

The following memorial gifts to Mount Olive College during the month of July totaled $793.35. These gifts are in addition to those made to Moye Library.

In Memory of

The Rev. J. O. Fort by Mrs. J. O. Fort, Jakin, Georgia.

Sandra Everington Aldridge and Leah Kristen Aldridge by Heber Aldridge, Kinston.

Robert R. Martin Sr. by Dr. Virginia Martin, Charlotte.

William Whatley Pierson by Dr. Mary H. Borgognoni, Mount Olive.

Ernest Hill by McCotter and Mayo of New Bern.

Robert A. Whorton by Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Slade, Merritt.

PLANS COMPLETE FOR FALL SEMESTER

Applications for the fall semester are still being accepted at Mount Olive College according to Russell W. Duncan, director of admissions.

Students desiring to live on campus should apply immediately to insure there will be a room available.

"I'm very pleased with the high caliber of students attending Mount Olive this year," Duncan commented. "This class appears to be one of the best we've ever had on campus."

Resident students are scheduled to move into the dormitories on Monday, August 21.

Incoming students who have not previously attended an orientation program may attend a special session August 22. Class registration is August 23 and classes for the fall semester begin Thursday, August 24.

A developmental studies program designed to assist incoming freshmen in the areas of reading, composition, study skills and speed reading will be directed by Dr. Martha A. Murray of Wallace.

Although a required course for all freshmen, students may progress at their own pace. Dr. Murray will supervise each individual student and also group students with needs in the same area for further instruction.

Dr. Murray holds her doctorate in adult and community education from North Carolina State University where she studied under Dr. Malcolm Knowles an internationally known figure in this area of study.

Kathy Price Tyner will head the secretarial science division at Mount Olive College this fall. She will replace Mrs. Rebecca Worrell who is taking a one-year maternity leave of absence.

(Continued on Page 15)



Story Corner

NEHEMIAH AND THE FALLEN WALLS

MANY hundreds of years ago the Jewish people sinned greatly. Because they had become so wicked, they were defeated in battle and many of them were made captives of the enemy. They were taken far away to the land of the enemy as slaves.

One of these captives became important in the court of the king. The king was actually a kind man; he had made this Jew his cupbearer. His duties were to serve the king all of the food he was to eat. Doubtless, the cupbearer would taste the food before the king so as to make certain that the king did not get any poisoned food. He also carried the king something to drink when he was thirsty. The Jew, Nehemiah, was a friendly person, and the king liked him.

One day, when he came before the king, he looked very sad. They had never, since he had come to them, seen Nehemiah looking so sad. He had always seemed to be so happy!

The king began to try to get Nehemiah to tell him what was troubling him.

Nehemiah could not help looking sad. He had had news from his home in Jerusalem that troubled him greatly. He decided to tell the king about it:

"A few days ago, I met my brother. He had just returned from our home in Jerusalem. He said the people there are in trouble. They are poor; their city is in ruins; they are being treated badly by the enemies about them; and the worst thing of all is that the wall around the city is completely torn down. They have no protection.

"When I heard, O King, I sat down and wept. But I remembered to ask my God for help. I prayed. I asked the God of Heaven to hear me. I told Him that we had sinned and we knew that it was wrong. But He had said, if we turned from our wrong-doing and trusted in Him, He would help us."

The king asked, "What can I do to help, Nehemiah?"

"Let me go to my people for awhile," he answered. "Send me to rebuild the city and the wall."

And so the king did as Nehemiah had requested. He not only sent him, but he gave him letters to allow him to pass safely through the lands between the countries. He also gave him a letter to the keeper of the king's forest. It said that Nehemiah was to be allowed to get the timber needed from the forest.

After the long, hard journey back to his own country, Nehemiah sat on his donkey, looking over Jerusalem, the ruined city. He saw that the stories told to him by his brother were true. The city was in shambles. The wall was down.

Back in the times of our story, the people built walls around their cities to keep out their enemies. They felt safe when the great wall was around them. But the people of Israel had been defeated and captives for so many times they did not seem able to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem. It was open to anyone who might want to come in.

Nehemiah went to the city and said, "Come, let us rebuild the wall!" He told them of how the king had sent him to do this.

The people were very happy. They busied themselves and started gathering the timber for building the gates. Before long they were starting up with the great wall.

Of course, the enemies would not let them work in peace. At first they made fun of them, saying, "Look at those feeble Jews. The wall they make will not keep anything out." But as they did not see the Jews give up, they began to get angry. They banded together and decided to attack before the wall was finished.

Nehemiah heard of the plans and told his people, "Be not afraid. Remember the Lord." He began to prepare them for battle. They worked with their swords at their sides. Seeing this, the enemies decided not to attack but to try to trick them.

They sent messages to Nehemiah to come over and meet with them. But Nehemiah was too smart for them. Four times he sent word that he was busy.

After fifty-two days the wall was finished. The gates were set up and fixed so that the enemy would be held out.

I think that many times afterward, Nehemiah and the Jews thanked God for making possible their safety.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

You may depend on the Lord, May He depend on you?

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 13)

After graduating from Mount Olive College in 1975, Mrs. Tyner earned her undergraduate degree from Atlantic Christian College and her master's in business management from Central Michigan University.

"I'm familiar with the type of atmosphere the College wants to create for the students," she said. "I really enjoyed the personal appeal of knowing faculty members well when I was a student and now I have the opportunity of passing back some of those good feelings," Mrs. Tyner added.

For more information about attending Mount Olive College, contact: Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365, (919) 658-2502.

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 10)

Johnny Cook
At Stoney Creek Church



Johnny Cook

Mr. Johnny Cook, former tenor with the Happy Goodman family, will be in concert at the Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Friday, August 18, at 8 p. m. The church is located on the Patetown Road near Goldsboro. An invitation is extended to come to this service.

NEW!

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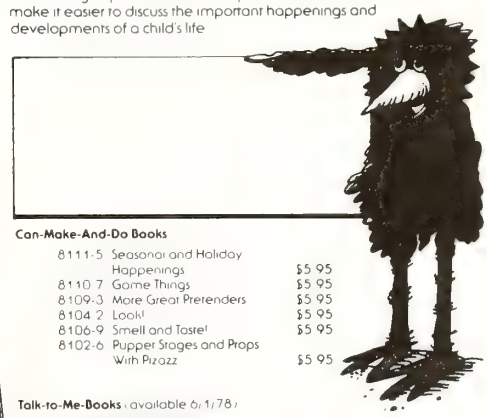


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TV WORSHIP: A WAY AROUND CHURCH ATTENDANCE— AND DANGEROUSLY CONVENIENT

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial . . .



Tommy Manning
Editor

TV WORSHIP: INSTANT RELIGION IN A BOX?
(A Dangerous Concept))

Plaintive cries are made for funds. "So we can reach the masses for Jesus," is the appeal. "Send your money—even a little; but spare as much as you can. It takes a million dollars a week to run our operation. We desperately need your help—now more than ever!" Almost tearfully the TV minister appeals to the sympathetic viewers with statements even stronger and more pitiful than the ones we've supplied.

TV evangelism is at its height, and mass media coverage of religious programs is available on nearly every station. One very popular show which has grown to national and international prominence is now the proud possessor of its own network and promises full-time devotion to religious programming. Via satellite, some of the shows will soon reach every corner of the globe.

Please know that we appreciate *sincerity of purpose* and the *devoted ministers who keep their charge and pronounce their witness on the air waves.* Please know that we are aware that many persons (who for various reasons cannot attend a regular church service) derive much satisfaction, comfort, and benefit from worshiping with TV ministers and by the aid of religious programs. We realize that such programs have their place and value, but they also act as a *deterrent* to "the assembling of ourselves together." TV worship, however good, can *never* take the place of a fundamental, Bible-based, God-praising, reverently beautiful service in one's church!

Many of the TV do-gooders ingratiate themselves by addressing noble causes, the least of which not being the salvation of souls. Oh yes, soul-saving should be the utmost aim of every Christian's heart and mind; *but*, I have yet to see long-range benefits. I know that souls *are* saved through television ministry; I know that persons *are* brought closer to their Lord by heart-rending pleas and exhortations; but we like to know something about *numbers*. How many are reached or are being reached?

The expected answer is "No one knows." True, no one does know. And certainly, we dare not put emphasis on numbers alone, for the nourishment of one soul should be worth any sacrifice; and if one soul is saved for Heaven, we should offer our "Amen" for the job well done.

It is possible that the scenes we see flashed on our television screens are quite different from the goings-on *behind* the cameras. This can be expected, but sometimes the actions are poles apart! We dare not speculate concerning impatience, redress, and backbiting; but if humanity is a factor (and it most certainly is), there is no getting around the possibility that everything isn't as reverentially calming as it appears on the screen.

We don't propose to derogate the honest-to-goodness preachers, the well-meaning evangelists who pour their hearts and souls into their work. We must consider, though, that the *professional ministry* has become a *gigantic enterprise*, and a few (if not many) are getting rich under the guise of self-sacrifice.

(Next week we will examine the church member who makes financial contributions to media worship.)

Cover Photo by Camerique

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MY CALL TO WITNESS

by Toni Leah Murray

Toni Murray captured first place in the 1978 Eastern District YFA Essay Contest. She is a member of Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church

IN my call to witness, I find it important not to force my religion onto those to whom I am witnessing, but just to let them know the importance of Christ in each person's life.

When I am with friends or relatives who are not saved and do not know the Lord as I do, I get this urge to witness, because I feel that I should share my happiness in Christ with others. For one reason, I feel I am being selfish with my Lord and Saviour when I keep Him to myself.

Sometimes when I am letting other people of my age know of my happiness with the Lord, I get laughed at and mocked, but I think to myself that I am doing the Lord's will and that is all that matters to me and the Lord. Usually, the Lord is pleased with me for trying, but if He is not, I do my best to try again and please Him.

To me, witnessing to people means helping them "Discover the Way of Happiness" with the Lord, as the theme of our YFA program book tells us this year.

In the Book of Proverbs (14:25) it reads, "A true witness delivereth souls: but a deceitful witness speaketh lies." What this Scripture is saying is that any man who is not really witnessing for the glory of God is not doing himself any good, or those to whom he is witnessing. A person who speaks the truth can win more souls and also help himself in sharing joy with others. This is what witnessing is all about, helping others to come to know Christ, or winning souls for God.

In my call to witness, I have been involved in several projects or activities such as (1) my witness in song; (2) my witness in my church's outreach program; and (3) my witness to my best friend.

In my witness through song, I find that you can witness to people in song because it is not only the melody people listen to, but also the words. I am a member of a singing group called "The Believers." This group is made up of some young people from my church. Although we have not sung at many places, I have found that people who could not be reached in any other way will sit and listen to other people sing. Sometimes we ask ourselves if what we are trying to do is worth it. This happens when we are discouraged and do not seem to reach anyone with our songs. I have learned from others that often the results of our witnessing may not be seen immediately, but it may plant a seed which will grow at a later time. This thought gives me encouragement to continue my witness in song with the group, even though at times I would like to quit. This does not mean that there is not any fun, joy or rewards in witnessing for Christ through song, but you must be willing to let Christ lead you and to draw strength from Him in order to overcome the frustrations and problems of getting the songs together for a concert.

Another program in which I am participating is my church's outreach program. Our church started a plan to visit each house in our community to determine if they were attending church, and if not, to invite them to visit our church or any church they would like to attend. Our YFA group decided to participate in this program in an effort to help those to be saved who do not know Christ as their Saviour. One way of witnessing to these persons is to talk with them in person and invite them to attend church. Our group decided to pick a Saturday and begin at the church and visit as many houses as possible in an afternoon. Our witness efforts began in failure as no one was at home at the first two houses we visited. Finally, on our third try, we were successful in at least talking with someone. It was an old man about seventy-five years old. We explained to him that we were visiting people, inviting them to attend church. He asked us if we thought it would do him any good and we told him, "Yes." He told us that he would attend church and we left feeling good. Later, we found out that the man already attended church and had played a joke on us. This did not bother us too much however, because we realized that he had given us confidence and we were able to continue to the next house feeling more sure of ourselves. This, I believe, was Christ helping us in our witness for Him because we were really nervous when we started out.

Turn the Page

That same Saturday, we went to a doctor's house and talked to his wife. We asked her if she went to any particular church and she replied, "no." So we told her about the different churches in the community. Then we told her we would like for her to go to any church of her choice, and she asked us if we were after a donation for our church. We smiled and answered, "no," and told her we only wanted to invite her to church. We had to explain to her several times before she understood we did not want a donation for our church. She asked us many questions about our church and our beliefs. Before we left, we told her that God loved her. She replied with a thank you and we left.

The way I witnessed to my best friend was by asking her to go to our YFA meetings with me and sing in our singing group. She was new in the state as well as in our community and did not have many friends. I began to witness to her about the Lord and invited her to church. We became very close and soon were best friends, and she is coming to our YFA meetings

My frustrations in witnessing have been at different times and in different ways. Once at school, I was talking with a girl about going to church and YFA with me and someone said, "Are you crazy? That is for a church freak." I replied that this was a difference of opinion, but it was frustrating. Then at another time, a group of friends was discussing church activities and someone made the statement, "What's the use of these things?" I told him there were many reasons for going to church and that one of those things was to learn how to witness to other people about God. Then some of them said that there was no need for that and that it does not help anyone or do any good. There are a lot of frustrations and problems I have to deal with in order to live and witness for the Lord.

At one time, because of these frustrations, I turned away from God. At that time, I acted mean to my friends and they stopped associating with me. Then I realized that I needed Christ and asked my friends to forgive me for the way I had been treating them. Now, with Christ in my life again, I have found strength to overcome many of my frustrations. Christ has given me love for others and love is very important if you are going to truly witness for Christ.

I believe everyone should be involved in witnessing, mainly because this is one way we can help others come to know Christ and be saved from the torment of everlasting hell. Also, as you talk to others about your faith and your Christian experiences, you find your own faith increasing and you become more confident that your beliefs are the right ones.

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SEPTEMBER 13, 14

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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: If you go to heaven when you die if you are saved and if not to hell, why is there a Judgment Day?

Answer: The resurrection and a just judgment for the unsaved are the result of Christ's death, burial, Resurrection, and Ascension. A time or day of judgment is a special favor and will be acknowledged as such by saint and sinner alike.

The place of waiting for the saint from the time of his physical death until the judgment seat or throne in the air where the saint will be judged for rewards is in the presence of Christ who throughout this age is seated at God the Father's right hand. The waiting place for those who are unsaved is the "bottomless" pit, hell or fire where the worm does not die nor the fire is quenched. This place where the unsaved go was prepared by God for Satan and his angels. When one chooses Satan's place and his way of life instead of the way of the Cross and Christ he automatically prepares himself for hell and eventually for the lake of fire where the devil and his angels and followers will remain throughout all eternity. The judgment through which the unsaved get the final sentencing is before the great white throne where Satan and all his are judged.

God chose this way because it's the best by which the saint as well as the sinner has to understand God's motive for all His ways and methods in doing these things justly. Not only will we the saints be able to see Him as He is but fully comprehend Him as He now comprehends us. See 1 Corinthians 13:9-12 (note especially 13:2 ". . . but then shall I know even as also I am known.") Then when it comes to the sinner "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:9-11). (See 1 John 2:23; 1 John 4:5; Romans 10:9.)

Those who truly confess (acknowledge) Him now will not be under judgment as will the lost when they are forced to confess Him while they themselves are underneath or in the eternal lake of fire.

REUNION HONORS MEMORY OF THE REV. WILLIAM H. LAUGHINGHOUSE

The family members of the late Rev. William H. Laughinghouse met at the Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, on August 6, 1978, for their annual family reunion. The reunion honors the memory of Mr. Laughinghouse, who was the pastor of the Rose Hill church for twenty-one years. Mr. Laughinghouse was married twice and had fifteen children, all of whom were represented at the reunion by surviving heirs. Six of his children survive, three from his first marriage and three from the second. They include, starting with the oldest: Mrs. Malissa Rouse of Winterville, Mrs. Daisy Carroll of Greenville, Mrs. Wesley Turnage of Farmville, Mrs. Lela Williams of Greenville, Jesse Laughinghouse of Greenville, and Furnie Laughinghouse of Pantego.

Sixty-four family members attended the church services at Rose Hill and 110 attended the luncheon following the services. The luncheon was held at the summer home of Jesse and Hilda Laughinghouse located on the Pamlico River.

Coincidentally, the reunion fell on the eighty-eighth birthday of Mrs. Malissa Rouse, the oldest surviving member of the family; and the youngest member attending the reunion was Mrs. Rouse's great grandson, Matthew Abbott Hunsucker at the age of three months.

Jesse and Hilda Laughinghouse were host and hostess to the 110 guests who gathered at their home for a luncheon of barbecued pork and fried chicken with all the trimmings. The reunion brings together family members who are scattered far and wide. The states represented at this gathering extended from New York to Florida and included most of the states in between. In addition to the family, the guests included the Rev. N. D. Beaman, pastor of Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, and his wife; and the minister from the Hooker Memorial Christian Church, Greenville, the Rev. Ralph Messick. Other guests included close friends of Jesse and Hilda Laughinghouse.

The Rev. William H. Laughinghouse died in July, 1935, at the age of 81. He was pastor of the Rose Hill church at the time of his death.

This reunion is an annual affair that makes it possible for the children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, and great-great-great grandchildren to know the roots from which they came.

WATERY BRANCH FWB CHURCH CELEBRATES LILA SAULS' 91ST BIRTHDAY

Members of the Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, near Stantonsburg, celebrated the 91st birthday of Lila Sauls on Sunday, August 13, with a reception and tribute.

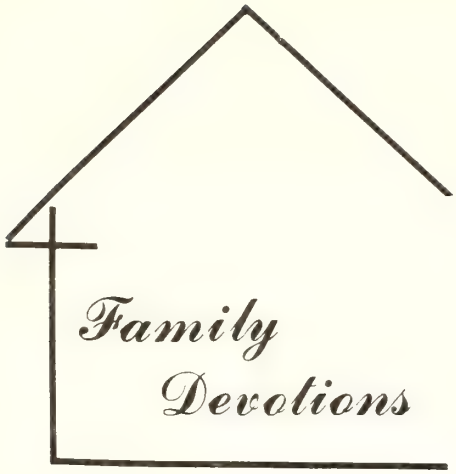
Mrs. Sauls is the oldest living member of the church. Her birthday was Tuesday, August 1.

At the service at the church, Mrs. Sauls' favorite hymns were sung by the choir. The youth choir presented her a corsage and sang "Happy Birthday."

Robert Finch told her life story and testimonies were given by those who remembered some special events in her life. "Life's Railway to Heaven" was sung by Marie Taylor and R. B. Lancaster Jr.

The Rev. A. G. Smith, pastor, read Scripture from Proverbs 31:10 and commented on Mrs. Sauls' life.

At the close of the service, the congregation sang, "When the Saints Go Marching In," with Mrs. Sauls leading the way walking. About 100 persons followed her to a reception given by the ladies of the church, which featured decorations in white, pink, and green. Refreshments were served. Flowers were given by her children. A gift in money was given to her from the congregation of the church in honor of the 64 years she has been a member and served the Lord.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

Scripture Reading—John 3:16

THE ONE IMPORTANT WORD

Dr. S. D. Gordon tells of an old Christian woman whose age began to tell on her memory. She had once known much of the Bible by heart. Eventually only one precious bit stayed with her. "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." By and by part of that slipped its hold, and she would quietly repeat, "That which I have committed unto him." At last as she hovered on the borderline between this and the spirit world, her loved ones noticed her lips moving. They bent down to see if she needed anything. She was repeating over and over again to herself the one word of the text, "Him, Him, Him." She had lost the whole Bible, but one word. But she had the whole Bible in that one word.

PRAYER THOUGHT

John 3:16 is the greatest verse in the Bible that is of importance, because it is by this verse we are told how one can obtain salvation.

MONDAY, AUGUST 28

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 1:12

"I AM OF PAUL'S PERSUASION!"

A pastor asked a dying man, "Brother, of what persuasion are you?"

The man replied, "I am of Paul's persuasion."

"You don't understand me. Of what persuasion are you?"

"I understood you. I am of Paul's persuasion."

The preacher shaking his head said, "Brother, I'm afraid I do not understand you. You said you are of Paul's persuasion. What do you mean? There is a Methodist persuasion, and a Baptist persuasion, and an Episcopalian persuasion, and a Lutheran persuasion, and a Christian persuasion, and a Nazarene persuasion, but what is Paul's persuasion? What is the persuasion of Paul?"

The man, smiling, quoted, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (2 Timothy 1:12).

PRAYER THOUGHT

People are not saved according to denominations, but according to belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:15

ONE THING HE KNEW

William James Taylor, alias Bill Hennessy, alias Ed Lynch, alias Tom O'Brien, learned that he couldn't hide from God. At the age of three, behind his father's saloon, he acquired the taste for liquor by dipping his baby fingers into the dregs of glasses and bottles. Small wonder that by twelve he was a drunken street urchin. After two years in a reform school he lived aimlessly until a second arrest placed him in an industrial institution. Gambling, drugs, and drink provided a livelihood and made him a constant fugitive from the law that kept him constantly on the move, whenever he wasn't serving a sentence. The night he arrived in Chicago, he hurried into the Pacific Garden Mission to avoid what he thought were suspicious glances of a policeman. He returned a second night. Again he heard the testimonies of what God had done for such as he. He knelt at the altar and repeated, "God be merciful to me, a sinner, and save me now for Jesus' sake." "I cannot tell all Jesus Christ has done for me. But one thing I can do, and that is tell others about Him. And there's a lot of things I don't know. But there's one thing I do know. That is that God ain't any picker of persons."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus loves everybody, whether rich or poor, whether a drunkard or the mildest of His children.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 10:4

WHEN THE PROPS GO

"See, Father," said a small boy who was walking with his father by the river, "they are knocking the props away from under the bridge. What are they doing that for? Won't the bridge fall?" "They are knocking them away," said the father, "that the timbers may rest more firmly upon the stone piers which are now finished." God often takes away our earthly things that we may rest more firmly on Him.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God doesn't need a prop. He stands alone. He is the Head. He cares for all His people.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31

Scripture Reading—John 1:1

"THIS PRECIOUS BOOK!"

This precious book I'd rather own
  Than all the golden gems
That e'er in monarchs' coffers shone,
  Or on their diadems.
And were the seas one chrysolite,
  This earth a golden ball,
And gems were all the stars of night,
  This book were worth them all.

Ah, no, the soul ne'er found relief
  In glittering hoards of wealth;
Gems dazzle not the eye of grief;
  Gold cannot purchase health.
But here a blessed balm appears
  For every human woe,
And they that seek that book in tears—
  Their tears shall cease to flow.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should read the Bible every day.

It tells us how we should live. We should obey God's Word.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Psalm 119:11

"DOES THE BIBLE TELL ABOUT PEANUTS?"

Dr. Carver, the great Negro scientist of Tuskegee Institute, has gone to be with Christ after spending his life for others. For years he urged his people in the South to plant crops besides cotton, for if that crop failed all was lost. He finally persuaded them to plant peanuts. However, they raised more peanuts than they knew what to do with. Carver then prayed for wisdom whereby the peanuts might be put to new uses. His prayer was answered, and he discovered how to make oils, varnishes, colorings, medicines, and a hundred other things from peanuts. He was invited to testify before a Senate Committee, and there he was asked, "Dr. Carver, how did you learn all these things?" He replied, "From an old Book." The chairman asked, "What book?" He said, "The Bible." He was asked, "Does the Bible tell about peanuts?" He answered, "No, Mr. Senator, but it tells about the God who made the peanut. I asked Him to show me what to do with the peanut, and He did.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We can find the answers to many of our questions by reading the Bible and by praying to God.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—1 John 1:7

"IT WILL LIGHT YOU HOME"

A minister went far into a backwoods settlement to hold a meeting and it was necessary that he return late in the very dark night. A woodsman provided him with a torch of pitch-pine wood. The minister, never having seen anything of the kind, said, "It will soon burn out," said the preacher. "It will light you home," was again the answer. "But what if it should rain?" "It will light you home," was again the answer. "But what if it should rain?" "It will light you home," was the answer the third time. And, contrary to the minister's fears, the torch did last him all the way home. The Word of God is a torch given into the hands of each of us. What if it rains? What if the wind blows? What if the fires of persecution come? If you will hold the torch high it will light you home.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of you have sung the song, "This Little Light of Mine"? We should always let our light shine for Jesus.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

NEWS NOTES

Western District Youth Fellowship Marsh Swamp Church

The Western District Youth Fellowship will meet Saturday, August 26, at 7:30 p. m. at Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Rock Ridge. Everyone is invited.

Spring Branch Church Announces Revival

Revival services will begin on September 4, at the Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, near Walstonburg, and will continue through Friday night, September 8. Services will begin each night at 7:30 with special singing.

The evangelist for the week will be the Rev. Bobby Taylor, pastor of Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church. The pastor, the Rev. Royce Reynolds, and the congregation extend an invitation to everyone to attend.

Edgewood Church Is Very Active

The Ladies Auxiliary of Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church, near Crisp, visited the Friendly Oaks Rest Home, near Rocky Mount, on Monday night, July 17. Homemade ice ream and cake were served and enjoyed by everyone there. Afterwards, there was singing with the pastor's wife, Mrs. Martha Edwards at the piano.

Edgewood church is having what they call a "Make Me a Witness" program each Tuesday night, in which they are witnessing for the Lord. It is hoped that this will bring more to Sunday school and church.

The men of Edgewood are having a prayer breakfast every second Sunday morning.

The pastor is the Rev. Rex Edwards.

Coming Events . . .

August—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention for State Convention Promotional Work
August 24—Classes Begin, Mount Olive College
August 25, 26—Piedmont Conference
August 27—Convocation, Mount Olive College
September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month
September 4—Labor Day
September 4—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, and Wilson
September 8—Sunday School Superintendents' and Pastors' Banquet, King's Restaurant, Kinston, sponsored by the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention, registration 7 p. m., meal served at 7:30 p. m.
September 13, 14—North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville
September 13—State Convention Mission Rally
September 16—Eastern District Youth Fellowship Convention, 10 a. m., Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?



SMITH COTTAGE HONORED

The Ladies Auxiliary and members of Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Smithfield, held a floating shower for the Smith Cottage at the Children's Home.

The shower was held July 15 at the fellowship hall. The ladies served refreshments and enjoyed fellowshipping together and opening the 50 gifts that were received for the Home. Merchandise valued at $255 was received; and on Sunday, July 16, it was delivered to the home by Aaron Overman, Beatrice Overman, Susan Corbett, Betty Thompson, Lena Lee, and Janet Corbett. They enjoyed visiting the Home and the children.

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
JULY, 1978
TOTAL: $8,585.78

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Mt. Tabor	$ 101.25
Sidney	38.13
Union Chapel	102.93
TOTAL	$ 242.31

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Goldsboro	$ 75.00
Haymount	120.00
Hopewell	89.65
Johnston Union	17.00
Lanwood Chapel	50.00
Oak Grove	40.00
Palmer Memorial	488.97
Pleasant Grove	200.00
Powhatan	300.00
Victory Mission	5.00
TOTAL	$1,380.62

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 165.00
Ayden	155.00
Black Jack	25.00
Daniels Chapel	625.00
Edgewood	5.00
Free Union	180.00
Greenville	10.00
Grimsley	50.00
Gum Swamp	695.00
Hickory Grove	114.86
King's Cross Roads	55.00
LaGrange	125.00
Owens Chapel	133.00
Peace	20.00
Reedy Branch	165.48
Rocky Mount	42.00
Rose Hill	100.00
Spring Branch	20.00
Winterville	182.86
Williamston	745.09
TOTAL	$3,613.29

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Core Creek	$ 82.25
Crab Point	15.00
Deep Run	70.00
Folkstone	250.00
Friendship	27.58
Hillsberry	30.00
Kinston	65.00
May's Chapel	240.47
Moseley's Creek	60.00
New Bethlehem	130.00
New Haven	40.99
Northeast	44.12
Oak Grove	5.00
Sarecta	250.00
Spring Hope	50.00
St. Mary's	250.00
Verona	53.50
Wardens Grove	109.00
TOTAL	$1,772.91

PEE DEE CONFERENCE

Oak Grove	$ 75.00
TOTAL	$ 75.00

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Calvary	$ 50.10
East Rockingham	20.00
Heritage Mission	151.49
TOTAL	$ 221.59

ROCK FISH CONFERENCE

Mount Moriah	$ 7.00
TOTAL	$ 7.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Barnes Hill	$ 80.00
Everett Chapel	77.84
Flood's Chapel	75.00
Friendship	10.00
Kenly	60.00
Little Rock	324.00
Marsh Swamp	30.00
Memorial Chapel	75.00
Milbournie	125.00
Mount Zion (Nash)	227.23
Mount Zion (Wilson)	100.00
Youth Fellowship	25.00
Miscellaneous	5.00
New Sandy Hill	25.00
People's Chapel	269.00
Pine Level	5.00
Pleasant Grove	5.00
Pleasant Hill	100.00
Pleasant Plain	126.00
Rosebud	5.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Stancil's Chapel	33.99
St. Mary's	75.00
Union Chapel	32.50
Union Grove	67.50
Unity (Durham)	25.00
Wilson	60.00
TOTAL	$2,193.06

OTHER STATES

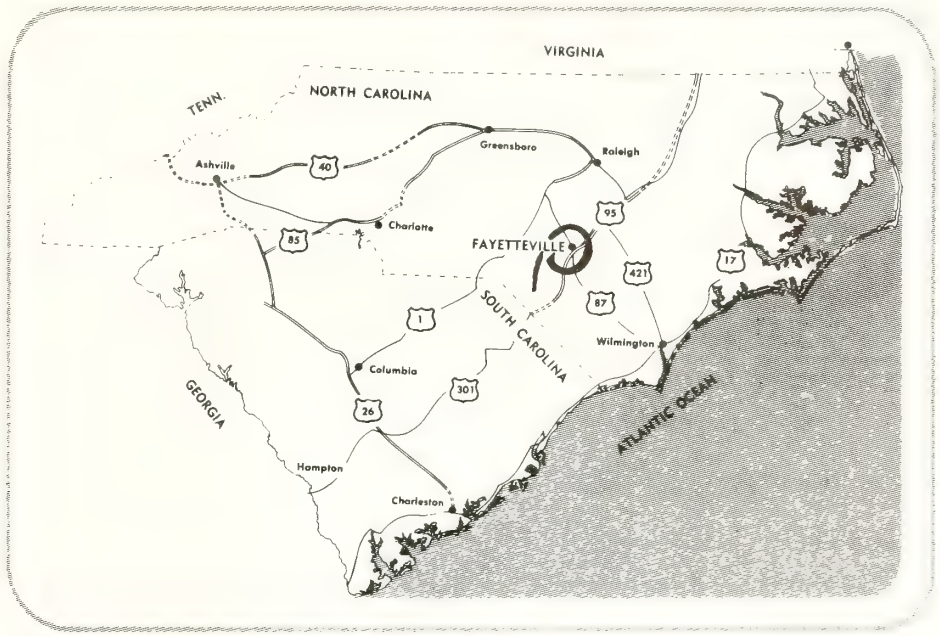
Cazy Young Mothers	$ 20.00
Bim Ladies Aid	10.00
Boone County Youth League	50.00
TOTAL	$ 80.00

MEMORIALS
JULY, 1978
TOTAL: $125.00

GIVEN BY:	IN MEMORY OF
Mrs. B. A. Avery	Mr. B. A. Avery
Mr. S. A. Pittman	Mr. Fred Smith
Barnes Hill Adult Sunday School Class	Mr. Berger Joyner

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STATE CONVENTION

FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA



State Convention: September 13, 14, 1978, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville, North Carolina

AMBASSADOR QUALITY INN AND PANCAKE HOUSE
U. S. 301 So. 2 blocks No. of Auditorium
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Phone (919) 485-4163

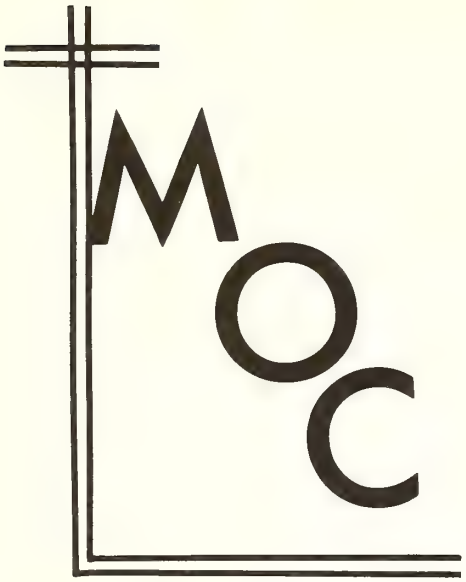
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For Reservations Area Code (919) 483-1113

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Note: All Reservations are made directly to motel.



DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will speak at Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro on Sunday, August 27, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Mount Olive College is seeking a Dean of Students to administer the student life program which includes residential life, administration of all policies and programs regarding student life, health services, inter-collegiate sports, intramurals, clubs and organizations, student government association, religious life activities, counseling and advising, campus security, student center, coordination of all campus activities as they relate to students.

Applicants must have professional studies and/or experience in student personnel work; doctorate preferred but not essential.

Send letter of application and resume to: Frank R. Harrison, Chairman, Search Committee, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365.

SECRETARIAL OPENING AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Mount Olive College has an opening for a qualified person in the development office. Duties will consist of serving as receptionist, gift records, and general office work. Applicant should possess training and experience in typewriting and bookkeeping. Any interested person should contact Mrs. Jean F. Ackiss, Secretary to the President, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Telephone: Office, (919) 658-2502; Home, (919) 735-6013.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE NIGHT COURSES

Mount Olive College is offering the following courses for the fall semester beginning Monday, August 28. Registration for night classes will be accepted through September 11.

Monday nights:

Introduction to Data Processing

Public Speaking

Tuesday nights:

Introduction to Psychology

American Literature

Real Estate

All night classes will be from 7-10 p. m.

DEAN OF STUDENTS RESIGNS

Dr. Evelyn A. Mayer resigned the position of Dean of Students at Mount Olive College to accept a college position in her home state of Pennsylvania. Mount Olive College Chaplain Frank R. Harrison will assume the role of Acting Dean for the fall semester until such time as a replacement can be found.

"This opportunity became available at a late and unexpected time for the 1978-79 year," Dr. Mayer commented. "My experience at Mount Olive has been rich in human and spiritual meaning and my relationships with the people of Mount Olive College will always be cherished," she added. Dr. Mayer will be relocating closer to her family.

Essential College services are expected to continue without interruption. Harrison noted all members of the student personnel staff are returning and are experienced in their appropriate areas.

"We regret losing Dr. Mayer's services but we understand the personal and professional considerations involved," said President W. Burkette Raper. "All of us at Mount Olive sincerely extend to her our best wishes in every way."

A search committee has been selected to initiate interviews for qualified candidates to submit before the Board of Trustees.

"It is our hope that a new Dean of Students can be secured in the near future, but our objective is to find the best person possible rather than to fill the office in the shortest period of time," President Raper added.

Persons invited to be members of the search committee include: Derek Hines, Student Government President; Pam Johnson, and David Hines, students; Larry Dean, Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, and Mrs. Margaret Walker, faculty; Mrs. N. B. Barrow Sr., and Judge Arnold O. Jones, Trustees; and Dr. Wayne Wiley, W. Nathan Reynolds, and Russell W. Duncan, College administrators.

DESIRING A DEGREE?

Any person desiring a degree is invited to discuss the many options open at Mount Olive College.

Schedules for commuters can be arranged on Tuesday/Thursday schedules or Monday/Wednesday/Friday schedules.

Night classes are also available on Monday and Tuesday nights for students unable to attend the regular sessions.

Registration for day courses is open until September 5. Night registration is open through September 11.

For more information, contact: The Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina, 28365 (919) 658-2502.

PAUL PALMER INSTITUTE COURSES FOR FALL

The fall class schedule for the Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies will offer the following courses on Monday nights beginning Monday, August 28:

7:00 p. m.—Basic Communication Skills

8:30 p. m.—Introduction to the Bible

—Pastoral Care

Persons interested in attending may obtain more information by contacting Frank R. Harrison, Director, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (919) 658-2502.

THE VIEW FROM THE PULPIT

by the Rev. Gary Bailey

Each Sunday as the minister steps into the pulpit he stands before God's people. Every time he stands there he looks out across the congregation and sees a variety of faces. The things listed below are just a few of the things the pastor sees each Sunday.

Someone really enjoying the singing and someone who is not.
Someone sleeping.
Someone whispering to someone else.
Someone playing with a baby across the sanctuary.
Parents who wish others would not try to play with their baby.
Parents who encourage their baby to make faces at those behind them.
Someone hurting inside.
Someone very interested in the sermon.
Someone quite miserable.
Someone going for water or to the rest room.
Everyone looking at the one going for water or to the rest room.
Someone clipping fingernails.
Someone noisely unwrapping a piece of candy.
Someone visiting the church and needing a friendly handshake or a smile.
Someone sitting on the back row that thinks the preacher can't see him.
Someone making others crawl across him to get to the inside of the pew.
Someone gladly giving his seat to those who are late.
Someone coming in late.
Someone joyfully placing a gift in the offering plate.
Someone feeling a slight touch of guilt when the offering plate is passed and he gives nothing.
Someone passing chewing gum to a squirming child.
Someone under conviction of the Holy Spirit.
Someone small sleeping on the front pew.
Someone with delight recognizing God speaking to him.
Someone sitting in the same pew Sunday after Sunday.
Someone attending church who has been missing recently.
Someone you do not know but later find out is a fellow church member.
Someone you led to Christ and had the joy of baptising.
Someone you want so badly to see accept Christ as his Saviour.
Someone laughing.
Someone crying.
Someone praying at the altar.
Someone praying at his seat.
Someone walking the aisle to invite Christ into his life.

Some of these things pastors wish would not happen. In spite of the negative, the view from the pulpit is magnificent. The view is inspiring because from the pulpit, as nowhere else, the pastor can see God working in His people's lives.

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For September 3

CONSEQUENCES OF THE UNDISCIPLINED LIFE

Lesson Text: Romans 1:18-20, 24, 25; 2 Timothy 2:21-26

Memory Verse: 2 Timothy 2:22

I. INTRODUCTION

Rome was like Addis Ababa, or Tokyo, or Moscow, or Washington, D.C. The Capitol towered in stately beauty, but the stench of slums repelled the unwary tourist. Fair slogans of justice and equity were flaunted, but corruption ran riot in the streets and ruled the rulers.

Paul felt drawn to Rome, not so much by the shining marble or the glitter of Caesar's court as by the dirt and degradation. Apostle of the Christ who came from Heaven's glory to earth's despair, he had a message for the most depraved. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Romans 1:16).

Rome needed the gospel.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. This is the first of four lessons on the general theme of "Disciplined Christian Living." Look ahead and plan your teaching to avoid repetition.

B. Note that the lesson today deals with the negative aspects of the disciplined life, that is, the consequences of failing to discipline one's life.

C. Freedom of the will does mean that one is free, within certain limitations, to do as he pleases with his life, but it does not mean that one can avoid the consequences of his choices.

D. Undisciplined living is following the line of least resistance; it is doing that which requires the least effort at the moment. The consequences of such living are both unpleasant and unfruitful.

E. Our lesson today will point out several consequences of undisciplined living; however, the lesson does not exhaust the list. Encourage your class to name other consequences not given in the lesson.

F. This is the beginning of a unit of four lessons with the general title, "Disciplined Living." The lesson for this Sunday approaches the subject negatively, and is entitled, "Consequences of Undisciplined Living."

G. What do we mean when we speak of "Undisciplined Living?" The word "discipline" has several meanings. First, it carries the connotation of teaching and training. Second, it means to resist or control. Third, it means punishment for wrongdoing. The word is used in this lesson, and the others in this unit of study, to mean to restrict, control, or train. Therefore the undisciplined life would be a life without restrictions, without control, and without training. In other words, the undisciplined life is one that follows the line of least resistance.

H. Sometime ago a popular song with the title, "Doing What Comes Naturally" was heard often. This song title carries the connotation of the undisciplined life, just going along without restrictions, control, or training.

I. Isaiah 53:6 gives us one of the best definitions of sin in the entire Bible. The verse begins, "All we like sheep have gone astray." This simply means that all men are sinners. Then the prophet tells us how we are sinners, how we have gone astray; "we have turned everyone to his own way." Isn't Isaiah saying that the undisciplined, uncontrolled life is the sinful life?

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. A year ago, almost to the day, the introduction to lesson one in this quarterly stated that "Perhaps more changes have occurred in the life-style of the average American within the past ten years than at any other time in history. These changes are reflected in his habits, his dress, his opinions, the things he eats, and particularly in his moral values. Things that only a few years ago would have horrified us are, with amazing subtlety, being more and more accepted as a part of ordinary life. . . ."

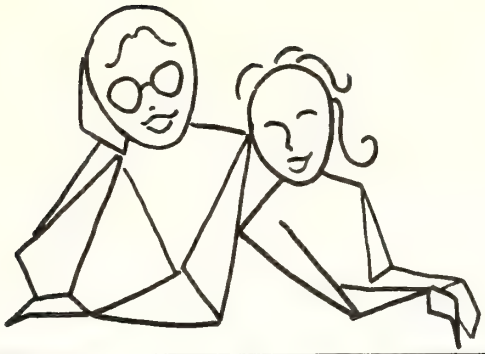
B. This statement was true twelve months ago. Has it changed during the year? Either we have improved our moral values and our life-styles, or we have allowed them to deteriorate even more. Human life will not remain static. It must be disciplined more and more each day or it will become less disciplined as the days go by.

C. If this statement is also true, we can only hope that we have improved in a year's time. But have we? In these four lessons on discipline (self-control) we shall attempt to discover the truth, with God's Word as our honest and clear guide.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

D. In this lesson on the "Disciplined Life," we should realize that man has the freedom to do as he pleases, within certain limitations, but he does not have the freedom to avoid the consequences of what he does. For example, a man may choose to drink or not to drink, but he does not have the ability to choose the consequences of his act. The consequences of our acts are inherent in the acts themselves.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**



story corner

THE LAST MAN

LONG before the days of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, there lived a man named Noah. We are going to learn about Noah in our story.

Do you remember how God made the beautiful Garden of Eden? And do you remember how He cast them out of it when they had sinned? After that, more and more of the people on the earth began to sin; soon it seemed to God that all of the people in the world were wicked.

God looked down from His home in the heavens and tried to find who were the good people left in the world. He could find only one man and his family who still loved and obeyed Him. This man was Noah.

God decided to destroy all of the wicked people and leave only the good ones. He would save Noah and his family to start the new world.

One day God called to Noah. Noah answered, "Yes, Lord. What would you have me to do?"

"I am going to destroy all of the world, Noah. But because you are good and still love me and follow me, I will save you and your family. You must do as I tell you."

God told Noah to build an ark. It was to be both a house and a boat. It was to be three stories high.

How the people must have laughed at Noah when he started to build the ark! As they passed by the place where he was working, they would laugh and point at him as they said to each other, "Noah has gone crazy. Who ever heard of building a boat here so far from the water. Where is he going to get the water to float it, or how is he going to get it to the ocean?"

But all this time, Noah kept on working. He probably tried to tell them that God had said there would come a great rain. It would bring the floods, and all of the earth would be covered; but the people would not believe him.

Noah was six hundred years old when he began to build the ark. It is hard for us to believe, but people lived much longer in those days than they do now. Even though Noah was old, God gave him the strength to build; and he and his sons worked on the great ark.

As he worked, Noah must have continued to preach to the people. He begged them to repent and turn to God so that they might be saved. But the people only laughed at him more than ever. They continued in their wicked ways.

Finally the ark was finished. It had been built just as God had wanted. Noah stepped back to look at his work. Yes, it was a good job. They had it waterproofed and large enough. I imagine Noah wondered what they were going to put into this big ark. He knew that there was more than enough room in it for his family.

When it was finished, God told Noah to gather together the animals of the earth. He wanted males and females of every kind there was. Then they were to take enough food for all of the animals and the people for a long time.

Then the day came. God said, "Get into the ark. I am going to send the flood."

They climbed into the ark. Even as he climbed into it, I imagine Noah pleaded with the people for one last time to turn from their wickedness and accept God. But even then, they would not listen.

There was one window in the very top of the ark. There was one door. After Noah, his family, and the animals were all safely in the ark, God shut the door and window and sealed them. The rains came. It rained so much and so hard that the rivers and oceans rose higher and higher. They soon were flooding the lands, and the people were running for higher ground. They climbed the mountains to get above the water. Some of them perhaps remembered Noah. They saw the ark rising with the water. It was floating. They may even have gone to it and beat upon the door, but it was too late. God had sealed it. It could not be opened. Soon the water had risen so high that it had covered all of the houses. Then it rose higher until it had covered the mountains and trees.

After forty days and forty nights the rains stopped. For one hundred and fifty days the water stayed on the earth, then it began to go down. The ark came to rest on the top of a mountain that Noah named Ararat.

Finally Noah opened the window to look out. He still could see nothing but water. He took a raven and let it fly out of the window. The raven had strong wings and could travel far. It did not return. Then Noah sent a dove out. Because the dove could find no dry land to walk on, she came back.

A week later, Noah again sent the dove out. She returned again, but this time she had a leaf in her month. By this Noah knew that the water was below the treetops but was not down to dry land. He waited on.

Finally, God told Noah to come out. He did, and the water was gone. The first thing Noah did was to offer a sacrifice to God to thank Him for saving them.

God promised Noah that never again would He destroy the earth with water: "I will put a rainbow in the sky so that when you see it you will remember my promise. Never again will I send a flood to destroy the earth"—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

Auxiliaries in Action

CRAGMONT WOMAN'S CONFERENCE



Woman's Conference

The theme for Cragmont Woman's Conference was "Anchored in Christ."

On August 7, three ocean liners (the buses), one freighter (the van), and a trawler (Pearl Johnson's car) set sail for Cragmont.

The hymn "In Times Like These" and many other hymns and choruses were sung enroute.

We arrived in port around 5 p. m. We were graciously greeted by Commandant Doug Skinner. On the orders of Skipper Dola Dudley, he and his staff stationed us in the various bunkers for the week.

Following the evening chow time, we assembled in the tabernacle for a short service. The One Hundred Twenty-First Psalm, which has been traditionally read as the Scripture on the first night, was read by Mrs. Dudley.

Reveille each morning was at 7 a. m. and chow time from 8 a. m. until 9 a. m.

Velma Morris of Vanceboro gave the morning devotions on Tuesday. Her subject was "Prepare," Psalm 51:10.

"Sailing with Song" was directed by Alma Dale accompanied by Geraldine Summerlin at the piano. This was a daily delight from 9:45 a. m. to 11 a. m.

Becky Jo Sumner of Ahoskie brought the message for the morning worship on Tuesday. Her subject was "Our Cargo," Psalm 31:3.

After lunch we "went on leave" to Asheville Mall for a shopping trip.

After dinner Tuesday evening we had our "passport" pictures taken.

At 8 p. m., "A Mighty Fortress" (evening service) was held in the tabernacle. The speaker for this Bible study was Lizzie Dawson of Shady Grove church. Her subject was "The Tree of Life."

Wednesday morning devotions were given by Alma Buck of Rose Hill church. Her subject was "Praise," Psalm 95:1.

Following song time, the morning worship speaker was Hallie Still of Zion church, Blakely, Georgia. She spoke on "Winds and Waves," Psalm 61:2.

Wednesday afternoon one group of the sailors went to the Fabric Center, another went to Biltmore Estate, and others just stayed in port.

At the evening service, Mrs. Dawson's subject was "Living Waters." Following her message, Mr. Skinner showed slides on Cragmont and spoke of plans for the future. A processional offering was taken in the amount of approximately $4,600.

On Thursday morning the devotions were given by Sadie Daughtry. Her subject was "Pray," James 5:14.

During the song service a short time was taken for personal testimonies.

Virginia Joyner presented the morning worship message "Heaven Our Harbor," 1 Corinthians 2:9.

On Thursday afternoon, one boatload went to the Christus Gardens in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Another boatload went to the Cherokee Indian Reservation. Another group went shopping in Asheville Mall.

On Thursday evening, Mrs. Dawson's subject was "Security." She used a miniature ark for her object lessons.

After service Thursday evening, the younger sailors challenged the Cragmont staff to a basketball game. The sailors won.

The Friday morning devotions were given by Gladys Pounds. Her subject was "Plenteous Harvest," Luke 10:2.

Following song time, Mrs. Fred Baker, missionary candidate to the Philippines, spoke very challengely to the group. She was followed by Caroline Castelloe, a member of the faculty at Mount Olive College, who has just returned from the mission field in Mexico and Eagle Pass, Texas. She gave an enthusiastic report of the work there. Her subject was "Launch Out Into the Deep."

Friday afternoon some of the staff and sailors met in the tabernacle for an exhibition of talent. 'Twas fun time.

A mock groundbreaking service for the new building was conducted at 5 p.m. by the Rev. Doug Skinner, Cragmont Director, and officers of the auxiliary Convention in attendance at the Conference. Officers present were: Mrs. Dola Dudley, Mrs. Rose Raper, Mrs. Ruth Warrick, Mrs. Nina Grace Register, Mrs. Alice Barrow, and Mrs. Lillie Mae Sasser.

The mission service on Friday evening was enriched by the presence of the Rev. Joe Ingram, foreign missions director, who gave us greetings from all fields. He introduced the Rev. Fred Baker, missionary candidate to the Philippines, who blessed our hearts with the message. A processional offering was taken to apply to the purchase of a van for the Bakers. The offering was some over $2,000.

Our sincere thanks go to those who were responsible for the music all week; Mrs. Alma Dale, the director; and Mrs. Geraldine Summerlin, pianist. Others doing special music were: Nina Grace Register, Leah McGlohon, Joann Parrish, Ann and Monty Wiggs, Mrs. Doug Skinner, Ruth Warrick, Frances Phillips, and Carol Bland.

We sailed for home Saturday morning with our hearts full of love for all of those at Cragmont who had made our stay enjoyable, the delicious food, and the Christian fellowship.

There were three ladies from Georgia, one from Florida, and 142 from North Carolina registered for the conference. Many other things happened at the Conference which aren't contained in this article. (It would take a book to tell all.)

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth L. Warrick,
Corresponding Secretary



LUIS PALAU

Argentine-born Luis Palau is an international evangelist whose ministry probes deep into Latin America as well as the United States and Europe. His daily radio programs in Latin America and Spain garner an estimated listening audience of 14 million people. His two other books through Multnomah Press are THE SCHEMER AND THE DREAMER and THE MOMENT TO SHOUT.

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STATEWIDE PASTORS' AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS' BANQUET

September 8, 1978

KING'S RESTAURANT
Highway 70, in Kinston, North Carolina

Time—Registration begins at 7 p. m. **Meal to be served 7:30 p. m.**

Speaker—

Dr. Michael Pelt

Wives of Pastors and Superintendents are invited.

All Pastors and Superintendents are invited, regardless of the fact that one or the other may not be able to attend.

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_____ I do understand that I will be responsible for the cost of my meal. (Cost is approximately $4)

There will be _____ in my party.
number

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

MEETING PLACE OF
STATE CONVENTION OF
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

SEPTEMBER 13, 14

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

"DOLLARS FOR THE LORD"—OR ARE THEY?
(Financing TV Ministries)

It appears that more than a few are becoming concerned about the enterprising religious TV programming. Our friend and colleague in Christian literature, Marse Grant, editor of THE BIBLICAL RECORDER, touched on the subject in a current issue of his magazine; and it has been brought to our attention that the August 12 issue of TV GUIDE carried an article entitled "Praise the Lord—and Cue the Cameraman," which questions some of the tactics, methods of presentation, and money-gathering techniques of such popular programs.

In last week's editorial, I addressed the television ministry and suggested the possibility that it might be just so much instant religion in a box. I lament a lot of the same things that must bother other people who don't take as gospel everything offered as such.

This week, I want to speak to fund-raising, the ever-increasing appeal for dollars toward the promotion of religious broadcasting. The soulful proclamation, "Nothing from nothing equals nothing," of the Right Reverend So-and-So rings in our ears. He insists that if we don't send our dollars for the Lord, the Lord will withhold His blessings. The Lord answers prayers, says he, in direct proportion to how much money we give.

My interest in this growing problem was initially sparked by one of our young ministers when he said that many well-meaning church members send "no telling how much" money to this or that campaign or to this or that TV ministry to the deprivation of their own church—and even at the sacrifice of themselves and their families. I knew that human naivete and gullibility would allow a host of people to be taken in by questionable causes and / or persons, but I suppose I wanted to deny the fact that close neighbors would be included in that number.

People *are* generous—especially when something spectacular attracts their attention. They (we) are easily influenced by sensationalism—and that's the category the majority of TV ministry falls into. Religious talk shows, musicals, or a combination of the two are now in vogue; and one of the newly formed networks has announced plans for religious soap operas! Can you beat that?

The appeal is great, even heartrending. So compassionate people, somehow misguided, give consistently, to the extent that some of the host ministers even refer to some by name and call them "partners for the Lord." We want it clearly understood that *we have no objection to giving funds for worthwhile causes*, but we feel that in too many instances *money is given blindly*—without the giver really having any knowledge about where or how it is being used. There is an argument that when one gives money to the Lord, he hasn't the right to allocate it; he must trust those in charge to use it wisely. But it isn't too smart for anybody to trust *just anybody* with his money.

Our main concern is that the local church goes lacking. The members often ignore the needs of the local church, when it should be the *first place of giving*. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, and prove me. . . if I will not open you windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive" (Malachi 3:10). But, funds are withheld from the church and from the local pastor, and when things go wrong (and do they ever!)—when things go wrong, the parishioners don't call the TV minister—they call the local pastor! They withhold their funds from the church but still expect all the services the church offers. And, lo, it is the pastor's duty, they contend, to rally to their need. Hardly a pastor anywhere can meet such demands wholeheartedly.

We don't hope to resolve all the problems associated with TV worship. Probably no one person or even a concerned group of persons can do much. But the subject does merit serious thought. Our terminal conclusion is that just too many people *worship the set!*

Cover Photo by
Phil Hansley

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THE CAROLINA BIBLE INSTITUTE

by
F. B. Cherry

WE are grateful for the interest being shown in the Carolina Bible Institute. Every day we are receiving written inquiries and people ask questions everywhere we go. This interest is most gratifying. So we decided to use this means to answer some questions that are most often asked.

The Institute was started in 1973 at the Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina, for the purpose of helping some local students who were planning to enter the Christian ministry and some laymen who wanted to further their knowledge of the Bible and be better church workers. Others began to ask permission to participate, and the Institute developed from this.

In 1975, the Institute was moved to Pine Level, a corporate charter as a non-profit institution was acquired, and the name was changed to The Carolina Bible Institute, with the purpose of training men and women for Christian service in church-related vocations and to be more knowledgeable and efficient church workers.

The original incorporators were Floyd B. Cherry of Pine Level; Harold L. Jackson of Wilson; Rudolph Jones of Pine Level; Graham Faucette of Kenly; and James D. Crocker of Pine Level. These men still compose the Board of the corporation. The charter of the corporation states that in the event the corporation is dissolved for any reason, the assets of the corporation will be divided equally between the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

All of the Board and every teacher are members of Original Free Will Baptist churches that are affiliated with the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. We have had, up to this time, a total of five students who belonged to other denominations. The catalog of the Institute states that the doctrinal position of the school is the same as that of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. We are a Free Will Baptist institution.

Although there is no functional connection between Mount Olive College and the Institute, every member of the Board and every teacher belongs to churches that actively support the College. Our relationship with the College has been cordial. We have had our personnel appear on programs at the college and some of the college staff have appeared on our programs from time to time. We are not a college and have no intention of becoming one. However, we do believe that our program answers the demand of some Ordaining Councils in the state who require two years of college work for ordination. When one has finished the three years at the Institute, he has had as much training for the ministry as one would receive at a liberal arts college in a four-year program.

Some have asked if there is a need for such an institution when we have a good junior college that plans to soon become a four-year degree-granting institution. At the time Carolina Bible Institute came into existence, there was no other such program available among Free Will Baptists in the state. Our mission board operates a Bible Institute for the training of Mexican workers, Southern Baptists operate the Fruitland Bible Institute in the western section of the state, and the Methodists have their annual school for "accepted supply" pastors at Duke University; therefore, it is difficult to understand the reasoning behind the idea that Free Will Baptists do not need such an institution.

Of course, there will be those who will never support the program of the Institute just as there are those who have never supported the program of our College, but is this any real reason why we should withdraw from the field? The thing that determines whether any institution should continue to exist is the "product" of its operation. Our students will determine whether we continue to exist or not.

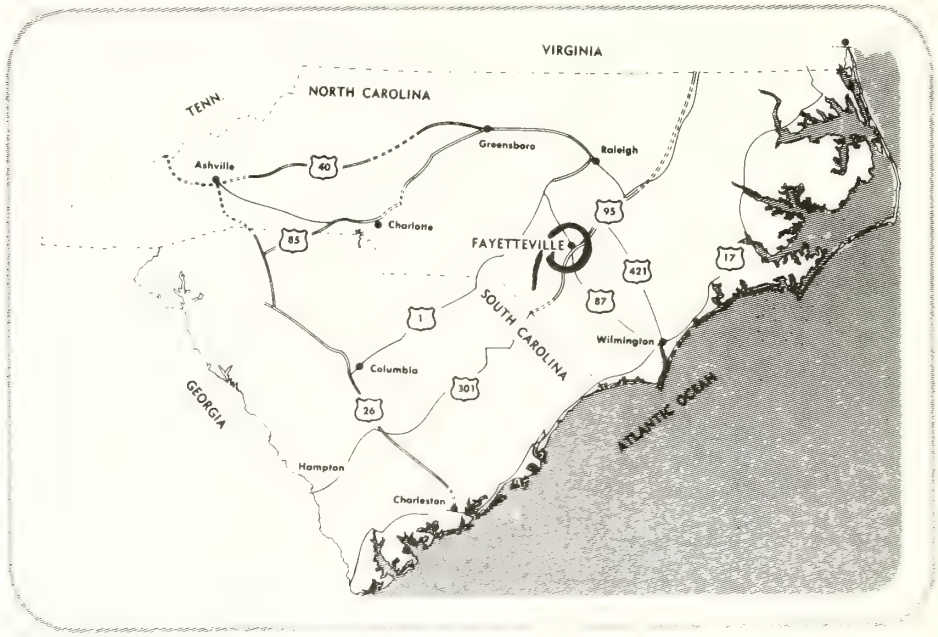
The Institute has recently acquired three and one-half acres of land in the Town of Pine Level with a six-room house. This property was purchased at a cost of $45,200. Presently, repairs and changes are going forward on the house to use it as a classroom building until such time as we are able to build. In this converted dwelling, we will be able to take care of some 50 to 60 students because all of them are not taking all of the courses.

The administration of the Institute has been in contact with the American Association for the Accreditation of Bible Institutes and Seminaries. At the present time we do not qualify for membership. However, we are keeping their list of requirements before us, and hope to qualify within the next three years. Our faculty does now and always has been able to meet their qualifications for faculty, but we do not have a library with the adequate number of volumes. With the help of our friends and the leadership of the Holy Spirit, we plan to meet all of the association's requirements for membership.

The Carolina Bible Institute has not and does not intend to engage in any kind of controversy with our enemies. It is our firm belief that if the work is of the Lord it will prosper; if it is not, it deserves to die aborning. We invite inquiries as to our operation, and humbly ask that students consider the advantages of attending a school that specializes in vocational training for Christian service.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STATE CONVENTION

FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA



State Convention: September 13, 14, 1978, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville, North Carolina

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NC STATE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FWB

SEPTEMBER 13, 14, 1978

FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA
CUMBERLAND COUNTY MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



The Rev. Robert May, president, will preside at this, the sixty-sixth session of our convention. Mr. May has served the convention as president for the last four years.



The Rev. David W. Hansley of LaGrange, North Carolina, member of the Home Mission Board, will speak during the annual Wednesday night Mission Rally.



The Rev. N. Bruce Barrow of Snow Hill, North Carolina, past president, will bring the message during the worship hour on Wednesday morning, September 13.



The Rev. Cedric Pierce Jr. of Spivey's Corner, North Carolina, past secretary of our convention, will deliver the message on Thursday morning, September 14, during the worship hour.

SPECIAL SINGERS

Throughout the convention the women's trio from the Roberts' Grove Free Will Baptist Church will be singing.

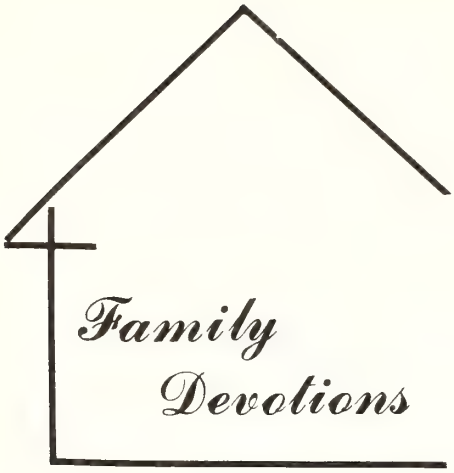
Mr. Gary Barefoot of Mount Olive, North Carolina, will be the pianist.

OTHER SPEAKERS

Representative from the Christian Action League of North Carolina, the Rev. Coy Privette.

Dr. Glenn Spence, Executive Secretary of the General Association of General Baptists.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
September 13, 1978
ANNUAL MISSION RALLY



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—Psalm 46:10

THE SLOW AGENT
OF DEATH

As reported in *The Edmonton Journal*, a New York City otologist said, "Aborigines living in the stillness of isolated African villages can easily hear each other talking in low conversational tones at great distances. But civilized humans have lost that capacity because millions of microscopic hair cells which transmit sound from ear to brain have been destroyed by an incessant flood of noise, and noise is the slow agent of death!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How tragic it is that so many of God's children have lapsed into a heedless, unhearing condition of which the Saviour has warned us.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—John 13:34

THE ONLY CATALYST

Hatred is always present in the "desperately wicked" heart of man. There is no country in the world where large populations of two different races live in harmony. The Irish hate the English; the British hate the Jamaicans in their midst; the Swedes hate Norwegians. Most Europeans hate Russians, and Russians hate and distrust most foreigners. Frenchmen hate Germans, and vice versa. Arabs have an implacable hatred for Jews, and Jews hate Arabs. Malaysians and Indonesians hate Chinese and communistic Chinese hate and distrust everybody. Most tribes in Africa hate one another. Pakistanis hate Indians and vice versa, *ad infinitum!*

PRAYER THOUGHT

The only catalyst for changing racial hatred and ill will is God's love for all mankind in our hearts.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—1 Peter 1:23

PERSONA NON GRATIS

In Kenya, Africa, hippies are considered unwanted corrupters of African youth. They are called apostles of drugs, pornography, and loose sexual morals, and, worst of all, parasites living on others.

The *Uganda Argus* has called for a limitation of all tourist travel by hippies "so that they do not have the opportunity to inflict their repugnant appearance and way of life on African youths."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many young people are disillusioned with the status quo. It is our privilege to try to enter concernedly into their lives, bring them to the Saviour and turn them to the pathway of ennobling service for God and man.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Scripture Reading—Psalm 16:11

GLUM AND GROUCHY
OR—

As an English nobleman mingled with guests at his country estate, he met an attractive but not strikingly beautiful woman. After they exchanged greetings, he said to her, "Would you come and let my roses see you?"

Later a friend asked, "Why were you so interested in that lady?"

He replied, "She was charming."

The friend asked, "But what makes her charming?"

He replied, "She made life seem more joyful and worthwhile."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Shouldn't this be the fixed purpose of each one of God's children? How repellent is a glum, grouchy Christian!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Scripture Reading—John 15:12

LOVE NEVER FAILS!
TRY IT!

Years ago in India, Captain Shaw of the Salvation Army visited a leper colony. There he saw three of the lepers shackled. Why? They were desperate criminals. Said Captain Shaw, "Remove those shackles. No one will be shackled in this colony."

"But these men are dangerous incorrigibles," warned a guard.

Said Captain Shaw with finality, "Remove those shackles."

Shortly thereafter, Captain Shaw had to go elsewhere for three weeks, leaving behind his wife and children. Upon his return, he saw the three allegedly desperate men near the entrance of his home.

"What are you doing here?" he fearfully asked.

They replied, "We heard that you would be away from your family for three weeks. We took our place near your home to see that no harm would befall your wife and children."

The lives of the criminals had been changed by the love and kindness shown them when others distrusted and degraded them.

PRAYER THOUGHT

When all else fails, try love: "Love never faileth."

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:18

A CITY OF SINNERS

Preparatory to beginning a meeting in a large city, famed evangelist Billy

Sunday wrote a letter to the mayor in which he asked for the names of individuals he knew who had spiritual problems and needed help and prayer.

How surprised the evangelist was when he received from the mayor a city directory!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Everywhere there are burdened, bothered ones "standin' in the need of prayer." Many are inwardly yearning for the Christlike touch of love and understanding.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Scripture Reading—John 3:16

IF THE BIBLE
WERE DESTROYED

Said Dr. Ralph M. Smith, "One of my minister friends has made more than 600 outlines of John 3:16 whose central truth is the immeasurable, unfathomable love of God for all mankind.

"Henry Morehouse began to preach when he was sixteen years old. Every time he stood to preach, he gave as his text: 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life' (John 3:16).

"If all the Bible were destroyed except John 3:16, anyone any where could be saved by believing this oft-quoted and cherished verse!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God's love is so wonderful; He loves us every one as though there were but one of us to love!

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

YOU AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

I cannot say **Our**, if my religion has no room for others and their need.

I cannot say **Father**, if I do not demonstrate this relationship in my daily living.

I cannot say **Who art in heaven**, if all my interests and pursuits are in earthly things.

I cannot say **Hallowed be thy name**, if I, who is called by His name, am not holy.

I cannot say **Thy kingdom come**, if I am unwilling to give up my own sovereignty and accept the righteous reign of God,

I cannot say **Thy will be done**, if I am unwilling or resentful of having it in my life.

I cannot say **On earth as it is in heaven** unless I am truly ready to give myself to His service here and now.

I cannot say **Give us this day our daily bread** without expending honest effort for it or by ignoring the genuine needs of my fellowmen.

I cannot say **Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us**, if I continue to harbor a grudge against anyone.

I cannot say **Lead us not into temptation**, if I deliberately choose to remain in a situation where I am likely to be tempted.

I cannot say **Deliver us from evil**, if I am not prepared to fight in the spiritual realm with the weapon of prayer.

I cannot say **Thine is the kingdom**, if I do not give the King the disciplined obedience of a loyal subject.

I cannot say **Thine is the power**, if I fear what my neighbors and friends may say or do.

I cannot say **Thine is the glory**, if I am seeking my own glory first.

I cannot say **Forever**, if I am too anxious, about each day's affairs.

I cannot say **Amen** unless I honestly say, "Cost what it may, this is my prayer."

—Author Unknown

TAKE TIME OUT FOR TEN THINGS

Take time out to work—
it is the price of success.
Take time out to think—
it is the source of power.
Take time out to play—
it is the secret of youth.
Take time out to read—
it is the foundation of knowledge.
Take time to worship—
it is the highway of reverence.
Take time to help and enjoy friends—
it is a source of happiness.
Take time to love—
it is the one sacrament of life.
Take time to dream—
it hitches the soul to the stars.
Take time to laugh—
it helps carry life's load.
Take time to pray—
it brings Christ near, and washes the dust of earth from our eyes.

—Adapted

My Lord knows the way through the wilderness, all I have to do is follow.

PRESS RELEASE!

DENVER '79! A new concept in professional training in marriage and family life for ministers, professional educators and counselors will be held June 25-30, 1979. This week-long conference sponsored by Christian Counseling and Enrichment, Inc., is designed to provide forty-four hours of intensive training to better equip ministers, counselors and teachers in marriage and family life education and Christian marriage and family counseling. The conference is open to all Christian workers and spouses; including ministers, youth and family workers, professional marriage and family counselors, psychologists, physicians, chaplains, educators, and qualified lay people with interest and background in the area of marriage and family.

Five to six hundred participants are expected to come together at the spacious fifty-acre campus facilities of Colorado Women's College in Denver, Colorado. Christian Counseling and Enrichment is a sister organization to Christian Marriage Enrichment. Both have been founded and directed by H. Norman Wright, who is also an Associate Professor of Psychology and Chairperson of the graduate department of Marriage, Family and Child Counseling at Biola College in La Mirada, California. Mr. Wright is also a licensed Marriage, Family and Child counselor in private practice and is the author of twenty-four books. Mr. Wes Roberts, Director of Counseling at Faith Presbyterian Church in Aurora, Colorado, and Associate Director of Christian Marriage Enrichment, is part of the team putting together DENVER '79. This week long conference is actually divided into two separate conferences; June 25-27 is the conference on Marriage and Family Life Enrichment and June 28-30 is the conference on Christian Marriage and Family Counseling.

This conference is unique in that the various seminars which are selected in advance will be designed to give extensive information and presentations during the 1-1/2 to 3-1/2 hour presentations. The topics in the Marriage and Family Enrichment Seminars include: premarital preparation and enrichment; preparing youth for dating, courtship and marriage; preparing for parenthood; evangelism through marriage enrichment; marriage enrichment ministries to middle-aged and senior marrieds; developing a single identity and handling single parenthood; developing parents through ongoing parent training courses; preparing for remarriage and step-parenting; sexuality courses; family enrichment; etc. The seminars in the Christian marriage and family therapy include counseling adolescents, establishing a counseling center within the church; theology as a basis for marriage and family counseling; premarital preparation and enrichment; models of marriage counseling; medical aspects of marriage and family counseling; sexual dysfunctions, divorce counseling; developing a lay counseling program; the process of prayer and healing in counseling; the alcoholic marriage and family; how to establish a private practice; resources in testing, etc.

Sixteen to twenty different resource leaders from across the nation will be conducting the various seminars. They include: Dr. Norman Wakefield, co-director of the Center of Ministries, Phoenix, Arizona; Dr. Jerry Schmidt, Professor at the University of Denver; Dr. Lawrence Crabb Jr., Psychologist and author of **Effective Biblical Counseling;** Drs. Howard and Pauling Hoffman, a medical doctor and medical enrichment specialist; Wes and Judy Roberts, Dr. Paul Sundstrom, Director of Pastoral Counseling, Western Conservative Baptist Seminary; Dr. David Seamands, Pastor of Wilmore United Methodist Church; Marv Inmon, author and professor at Biola College and Talbot Seminary; Rex Johnson, author and professor at Talbot Seminary; Andre Bustanoby, Director of Metropolitan Psychotherapy Group, Maryland.

At DENVER '79 the results of a national survey on Christian Marriage and Family will be presented. This survey is being conducted in churches across the country and will involve thousands of couples during the fall of 1978. The findings of this survey will be of significant impact in terms of the ministries of churches during the next few years. The beliefs, concerns and attitudes of couples will be tabulated and programed through a computer. This 110 item survey form is available to all churches and denominations.

For further details and information concerning DENVER '79 and the survey write to: Christian Counseling and Enrichment, 8000 E. Girard, Suite 601, Denver, Colorado 80231.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. James Warren of 1000 Poplar Street, Jackson Heights Section, Kinston, North Carolina, announced that he is available for a full-time church.

Mr. Warren is a member of the Eastern Conference and is in good standing with the conference. He can be reached by calling 527-1648 or by writing him at 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501. He is available to come on any Sunday to conduct services.

Coming Events . . .

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 4—Labor Day

September 4—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc. and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, and Wilson

September 8—Sunday School Superintendents' and Pastors' Banquet, King's Restaurant, Kinston, sponsored by the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention, registration 7 p. m., meal served at 7:30 p. m.

September 13, 14—North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville

September 13—State Mission Rally, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville, North Carolina, 7:30 to 8:45 p. m.

September 16—Eastern District Youth Fellowship Convention, 10 a. m., Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question: How may we be sure that Christ arose from the grave?

Answer: Dr. Wilbur M. Smith gives an enlightening discussion of the subject in **Peloubet's 1968 Select Notes** (Page 125):

"The resurrection of Christ is the cornerstone of the Christian faith, and it was understood to be such from the very earliest days of the Christian Church. In a careful study of the sermons delivered in the Book of Acts, one finds that the Resurrection is dominant in almost every one of them. It occupies one-half of the first sermon preached by Peter on the Day of Pentecost. In his famous defenses, Paul argued the Resurrection more than anything else. At the beginning of the 15th chapter of First Corinthians, he says that the two great facts of the Gospel are that Christ died for our sins, and that He rose again from the dead according to the Scriptures. Then he goes on to say that if Christ be not risen, our faith is vain, and we are yet in our sins. My own opinion is—and I am sure many would sustain me in this—that the evidence for the bodily resurrection of Christ presented in the Four Gospels is so definite, so detailed (in Matthew and John the testimony is that of eyewitnesses), so coherent when put together, that in spite of all the attacks of those who would deny the supernatural aspects of the Christian faith, no crack has been made in this fortress."

The late Dr. P. B. Fitzwater, Dean of Moody Bible Institute and author of a book entitled **Christian Theology**, says, "It takes the strongest kind of disbelief for a person well acquainted with the facts of the resurrection that fails to believe in it." The Bible makes belief in the resurrection mandatory to salvation. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9).

Read the four Gospel accounts but especially the first 16 verses of Chapter 16 of Mark and the 20th chapter of John and ponder the facts as you consider these reports and then ask yourself if you can make an honest evaluation of them without believing He did arise from the grave. I do not believe one who thus does may be an unbeliever any longer.

NEWS NOTES

Revival Services
Marsh Swamp Church

Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Sims, will hold a revival beginning Sunday night, September 3 through September 8. Services will begin each night at 7:45. The speaker for the revival will be the Rev. Joe Ingram, director of Foreign Missions. The Rev. A. B. Chandler, pastor, and the members of the church invite everyone to come and join them in these services.

Central District Youth Convention
Daniels Chapel Church

The Central District Youth Convention will meet at Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Wilson, Saturday night, September 9, at 7:30 p. m. All youth are invited to attend and fellowship with them. The Rev. David Charles Hansley is pastor.

Sweet Gum Grove Church
Announces Homecoming

The Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes, will observe its annual homecoming, Sunday, September 3. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. followed by the worship service at 11. Lunch will be served at noon.

There will be a singspiration in the evening consisting of the local talent in the church. The pastor, the Rev. Joe Hudson, and the members invite all former members, pastors, and friends to come and fellowship with them.

CRAGMONT

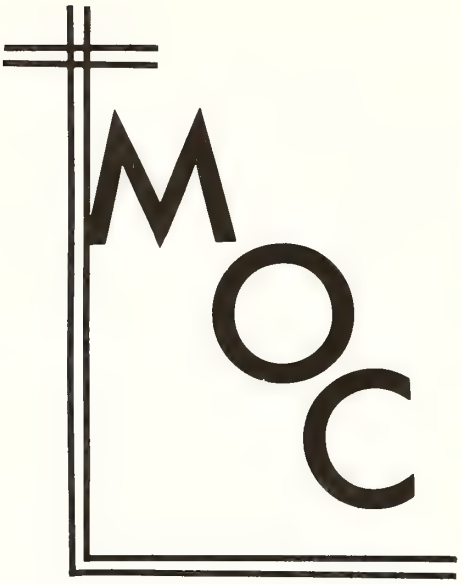
July was a good month for Cragmont. "Ma" Hansley brought two fine groups of campers. There were 101 campers during the YFA Conference, and there were 87 campers during the AFC Conference. The ministers did not seem to mind changing the date of their conference to July, for there were approximately 90 people in attendance. Many remarked that this was the best Ministers' Conference yet!

After a week's break, we began August with 125 campers in the Young People's Bible Conference. Then we ended the conference season with a bang—140 ladies with the Woman's Conference. If there is one conference on the increase, it is this one! We certainly appreciate the fine offering of $4,600 the women gave to the Cragmont Building Fund. We are now ready to start the weekend retreat phase of the camping season. We are also open during the week if anyone passing through needs a room in which to stay.

There are big, exciting things happening at Cragmont now. On Monday, July 31, 1978, a contract was signed with C. Cliff Meyer of Black Mountain to construct our new main building. On the following Thursday, the first evidence of construction appeared when a small crew came and drove in the stakes marking the outline of the building. As of the day of this writing, we have progressed to the stage where the foundations are being dug. You can tell there is excitement in the air as we see the various stages of construction. There was a ground-breaking ceremony held while the Woman's Conference was here. Those who have waited and hoped for so long to see this building could not help but have tears in their eyes during this ceremony. There will be pictures and an article in a near future edition of the **Free Will Baptist.**

Don't forget Cragmont in your prayers. Continue to support us in any way possible.

Rev. Douglas Skinner, Manager



PAUL PALMER INSTITUTE OFFERS PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies offers professional Christian training at the Institute level.

"Although the Institute does not offer college credit, it allows a person professional Bible training and a respectable degree at the Institute level," commented Frank R. Harrison, director. "It also offers busy ministers the opportunity to update and generate fresh ideas in a professional setting," he added.

Classes meet only on Monday nights for eight-week terms. Registration for the first term closes after Monday, September 4.

Class offerings for the first term are: Basic Communications Skills, 7 p. m.; and Introduction to the Bible or Pastoral Care at 8:30 p. m.

It is possible to enroll in two courses per term for a total of four courses before Christmas.

Institute level cost is only $20 per course. For more information, contact: Frank R. Harrison, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365 (919) 658-2502 (office) or 658-9363 (home).

OPPORTUNITIES OPEN FOR MINISTERS AND WIVES

Educational opportunities for ministers and wives are open and waiting at Mount Olive College.

Mount Olive offers special tuition grants for ministers and wives desiring to attend or earn a degree.

Day courses scheduled for the fall semester in the field of religion are Introduction to the Old Testament, Introduction to the New Testament, Religions of the Bible, and The Minister and His Work.

Flexible scheduling can be arranged for persons interested in attending this fall.

For more information, contact: Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; (919) 658-2502.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE FALL SEMESTER DEADLINES

Registration for the fall semester will be accepted through:

Day classes—September 5

Night classes—September 11

Paul Palmer Institute classes—September 4

Interested?

Contact Mount Olive College today!!! Some financial aid still available.

Mount Olive College
Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365
(919) 658-2502

Woman's Auxiliary

FRIENDSHIP WA BAZAAR AND FLEA MARKET

The Woman's Auxiliary of Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, in Johnston County, will be having its annual bazaar and flea market on Labor Day Weekend, which is Saturday, September 2 and Monday, September 4. The event will be held all day long both days. It will be held at Emit which is located on Highway 39 and Intersection of 231. There will be crafts, homemade jellies, jams, vegetables, and many other items. Hot dogs, cake, pie, and drinks will be available. Everyone is invited to see the bargains that will be there. All proceeds will go to church projects.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO PASTORS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

The cost for the meal at the Pastors' and Superintendents' Banquet to be held September 8 will only be $3 per person. King's Restaurant of Kinston has agreed to charge us only last spring's prices because they like Free Will Baptists.

If you have not notified the Sunday School Executive Committee of your plans to attend, do so today. Remember, your wives are invited.

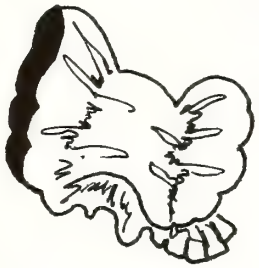
Let our president know how many will be in your party. His address is as follows:

Stanley Jenkins
712 Cameron Drive
Kinston, North Carolina 28501

Prayer can transform:
. . .seconds into services,
. . .minutes into miracles,
. . .obstacles into opportunities,
. . . adversities into adventures.

"A Christian Home
for Boys and Girls"

Children's Home



MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

AUXILIARY PROVIDES JARS TO HOME



Pictured are (l-r) Elbert Hall, Edna Fowler and Wilma Hall of the Victory Mission.

The Victory Mission Woman's Auxiliary of Hope Mills recently paid a visit to the Children's Home. They brought with them six dozen canning jars. They couldn't have come at a better time, because we were in the middle of our canning season. These jars have since been filled with tomatoes and snapbeans.

All of us at the Children's Home say "thanks" to each of you that made this gift possible.

DAVIS FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH VISITS THE CHILDREN'S HOME



Davis Church Group

Pictured above are some members of the Davis Free Will Baptist Church, Davis, that recently toured the Children's Home campus and farm. For many of them it was their first frip to the Home. They were able to see firsthand the types of services we are offering to the children we serve.

We appreciate the interest this group and others have shown in the Children's Home. Our door is always open, so stop by and visit whenever you can.

MEMORIAL CHAPEL GETS A NEW COAT



Mr. Rupert Pittman

Mr. Rupert Pittman, and others in our maintenance department have been working diligently during the past couple of weeks painting and fixing up our campus chapel. The paint on the woodwork and windows had begun peeling off.

While cleaning the gutters on the church, Mr. Pittman came across an unexpected surprise—a black snake! Mr. Pittman did not wait around to be introduced.

A PHONE CALL TO HEAVEN

Hello, Central, give me Heaven,
For I know my daddy's there;
You will find him with the angels,
Resting on the golden stair.

So please tell him his little girl is calling
And his voice she wants to hear;
For I must tell someone
Just how lonely I am here.

How I miss you, my dear daddy
And think of you each day;
I know you are not dead, my darling daddy—
You were just called away.

I did love you so very much,
No earthly tongue can tell;
Yet I'll try not to cry or even sigh
For God does all things well.

He needed one more person
To enter Heaven's open door;
So you answered His calling one day
And now you are not with us anymore.

How my heart was filled with gladness
And how the wires seemed to moan
When he sent his darling daughter
A kiss over the heavenly telephone.

How sweet was the sound of his voice
Which I had not heard in ever so long;
It was sweet music to my ears,
And in my heart it was a song.

So thank you, Central, for the calling;
It has helped more than you know,
I can travel life's pathway much better
No matter where I go;
I'll have a guiding angel by my side—
The daddy I loved so.

Sallie Ingalls Carraway

BOOKSTORES AND PRESS CLOSED

The Ayden Bible and Bookstore and Press Foundation, 811 North Lee Street, Ayden, along with the branch bookstores of Smithfield, New Bern, and Wilson, will be closed Monday, September 4, in observance of Labor Day. They will all be opened Tuesday, September 5, at the regular hours.

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For September 10

MOTIVATION FOR THE DISCIPLINED LIFE

Lesson Text: Romans 12:1-5, 9-13; Philippians 4:8

Memory Verse: Romans 12:11

I. INTRODUCTION

When people put God out of their minds, they can sink to a low level indeed. In the first chapter of Romans, Paul paints a dismal picture of the godless heathen. We looked at it briefly last week.

In the following chapters Paul goes on to say that the Jews are sinners along with the heathen. They have God's Law, but they do not keep it. "All have sinned" (Romans 3:23), and "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

Then is all mankind doomed? Not necessarily. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1). Jesus died for sinners, and therefore sinners need not die. In boundless mercy God gives forgiveness and life to those who take Jesus as their Lord.

"Therefore," says Paul as he begins Chapter 12. Because of God's mercy he feels free to give us the urging we find in this lesson.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. There are three therefores in the Book of Romans. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (5:1). "There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, . . ." (8:1). "I beseech you therefore, brethren, . . ." (12:1). Each one of these therefores begins a new section of the book. This lesson comes from the last section, which begins with Chapter 12.

B. The new section is a transition in Paul's thoughts from the doctrinal to the practical. Paul's exposition of the gospel truth that pertains to inner faith changes to an exposition of the gospel truth related to character and conduct. In the preceding section Paul gives some of the great doctrines concerning salvation from sin. He tells us how to find the forgiveness and be just before God. In this new section he tells us how this new life will be expressed in our conduct.

C. It is wonderful to be doctrinally correct, but it is more important to be correct in conduct. An orthodoxy that is not expressed in everyday conduct is a dead orthodoxy. And a dead orthodoxy is like a dead faith, it is no orthodoxy at all.

D. When Paul opens this new section of the book with the word therefore, he is referring to the fact that we have been justified by the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now, because we are justified—made just before God—we should let our conduct before God be right.

E. This second lesson discusses the importance of the reasons that motivate a disciplined life. The first motive is the "mercy of God." We are saved by His mercy, we are being sanctified by His mercy, and we are daily sustained by His mercy. Is this not a real reason for disciplining our bodies and presenting them to Him in service.

F. The second motive is the transformed life that will come from disciplined living. When we are saved we are forgiven and all the guilt of sin is taken away. But we must grow in Christian character, and this comes about day to day, as we trust Him and discipline our lives. To be able to have a life that is transformed by His Grace ought to be reason enough to discipline our lives.

G. A third reason for disciplining our lives is the unity of the body of Christ. The undisciplined person is apt to try to be something that is not in the will of God. This means that he will try to do a task that belongs to someone else, which creates trouble. Therefore, Paul holds out the unity of the church as a motive for living a disciplined life.

H. Paul does not just tell us to discipline our lives, he tells us how to do it. In Verses 9-13 of Chapter 12, he names seven rules that we are to follow in the manifestation of our love toward other believers. Then he follows with a list of the ways that our love should be expressed toward unbelievers.

I. In the Epistle to the Philippians, Paul tells us how to have peace by disciplining our minds and thinking only about things that are good and right. Our minds make us happy or unhappy, and we can control our thoughts, if we want to enough.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The ancient Hebrews served Jehovah because the Law of Moses told him to. Perhaps he thought it his "duty" to obey and serve the Lord. Christians are not under the Law and therefore should obey and serve the Lord for nobler reasons. The incentives for Christian living arise from gratitude for His mercies, humility for what He has done for us and, among other things, love for Christ, which is the greatest motivation for service one may have.

B. It is more than our duty to serve the Lord—although the duty is there; it is also our glorious privilege. To be a laborer with the Lord is the highest honor any child of God can have.

C. The amazing thing about all this is that anyone, whatever his status in life, can live for Jesus. Paul thought of



story corner

THE PROPHET'S CHAMBER

LONG ago, there lived a lady who was very good. She lived in a little white house with her husband. They had no children. They had a beautiful garden in front of the house. In this garden the good lady had planted beautiful flowers. There were always some blooming at every time of the year. In this garden there were fruit trees and a nice big tree planted just to give a cooling shade during the hot part of the day. It was here, under this shade tree, that the lady loved to sit and tell stories to the children of the village.

All of the children loved this lady; they liked to come to see her often. They would bring her broken toys to mend. She would help them in their games. They especially liked for her to tell them stories about God and the beautiful world He had made.

Often she made sweet cakes for them and gave them fruit that grew on the trees in her garden. She loved the boys and girls very much, and she wished for a little child of her own.

Everyone loved the lady. People knew of her goodness for many, many miles around. Whenever there was someone in need of help, she would try to go to them.

There was a prophet of God named Elisha that passed through this village on his travels. Whenever he passed that way, he always stopped to see this lady and her husband. Then he would usually eat with them.

One Sabbath afternoon she and her husband were sitting in the pretty garden. On the Sabbath there was no work done in all of the country. Everyone used this day to rest and worship God. God had told them to set aside this day for Him. No one went into the fields; there were no stores open for trade; there were no sounds of carpenters' tools. Everyone was resting and thinking about God. In the morning they worshiped God, and in the afternoon the family rested and thought about all the things God had done for them.

It was on a day such as this that the wonderful idea came to the kind lady.

"My husband," she said, "do you not see that our flat roof would make a wonderful place to build a room?"

"Yes, it would be a good place. But why do you want another room? Do you not have enough for the two of us already?"

"Oh yes, there is room for us, but I was not thinking of us. I was thinking of our friend, the prophet. He has no home. When he travels about on business for the Lord, he is not assured of a place to sleep. We can build a room up there for him, and he can know that there will always be a place where he can rest and study, undisturbed, when he is near here."

"I think he would like that, my wife. You are kind to think of it. Let us build it with many windows so that he might have much sunshine to make it a happy room. We will make a stairway on the outside of the house so that he may enter and leave at any time and not be afraid of disturbing us."

"It will be a wonderful place. He can be alone, and God can speak to him."

"God has been good to us. He has given us each other to love, and health and happiness. He has given us the things we need to make us comfortable. I am glad we can do this to show Him how grateful we are for all He has done for us."

"Maybe He will know, by this, that we are grateful. It makes me so happy to be doing something for another and especially for one who spends all of his life working for the Lord as Elisha does!"

A few days later the room was finished and the good lady went into it to decide what furniture should be there to make it comfortable. She worked long and hard; and when she had finished, she called to her husband, "I have furnished the prophet's chamber. Come and see how it looks."

In the room she had placed a couch, on which he could rest or sleep. There was a table for him to use in writing and a stool for him to sit upon. On the couch she had placed a bright spread that she had woven. On the floor beside the couch was a rug that matched the spread. At the windows hung bright curtains of the same pattern.

"It is beautiful, my wife. I am certain that the prophet will be comfortable here."

It was not many days before the prophet passed through the village and, as usual, he stopped to see these friends. He ate the evening meal with them.

While he and her husband talked, the good lady hurried to fix something for them to eat. She could hardly wait until he had finished, before telling him what they had done for him.

Continued on Page 15

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(Continued from Page 12)

himself as "the chief of sinners," yet he became a great missionary for Jesus Christ. The vilest of men have turned from their evil ways and found supreme joy in association with their Lord. God can take the worst and make it the best. Someone has said, "The charcoal only needs a rearrangement of its molecules to become a diamond." As Jesus took a small group of unlearned followers and caused them to turn the world "right side up," so He can take you and me and cause us to become useful servants—once we have discovered the right incentives for Christian living.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A well-known lecturer was addressing a large congregation on the subject of loving our enemies. He challenged anyone in the audience to stand up if he had truly come to the place where he had not even one enemy in the world. The sole response was a ninety-three-year-old man who rose to his feet. When asked the secret of having lived to his age without an enemy, he responded, "I've outlived every last one of 'em."

Somehow, he had missed the point. All of us may have an enemy somewhere, sometime, but if we follow the true incentives of Christian living we are certain to discover that we have fewer than we thought. We will also find that the number of loving friends, whose lives we have blessed and who have in turn blessed us, has increased in abundance.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

QUICK QUOTES

Faith is to believe what we do not see; and the reward of this faith is to see what we believe.

All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen.

It has been found that the so-called **apple** on the tree did not cause the trouble in the Garden of Eden. It was the **pair** on the ground.

Why not go out on the limb—that's where the fruit is.

Prayer clears the vision, quiets the nerves, defines duty, strengthens purpose, sweetens the spirit, and fortifies the soul.

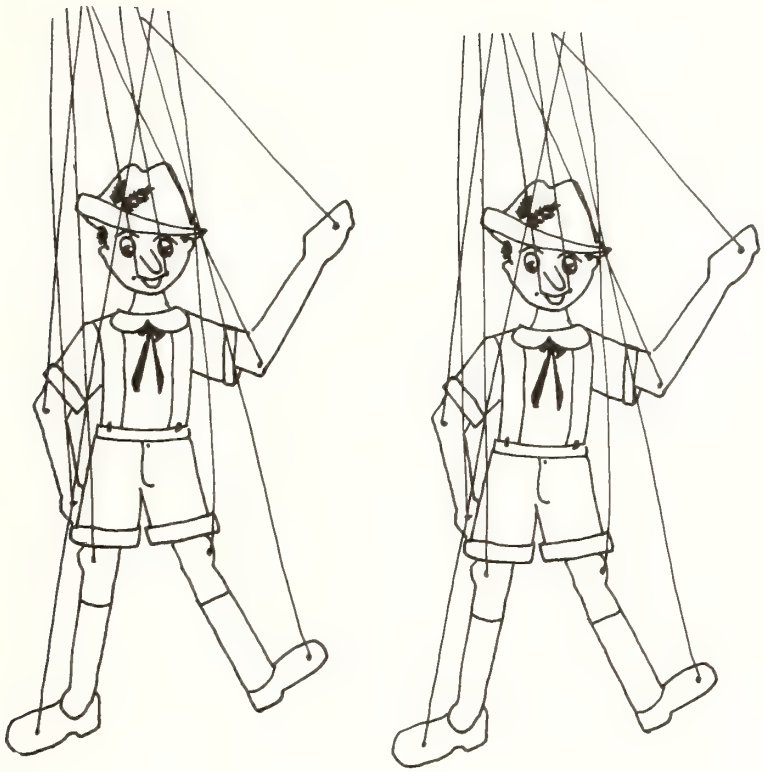
SIXTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE N.C. STATE CONVENTION OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

SEPTEMBER 13, 14

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND NOW!

CUMBERLAND COUNTY MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
Fayetteville, North Carolina

BIGGEST CONVENTION EVER, EXPECTED!



MAKE PLANS FOR EASTERN YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

The Eastern District Youth Fellowship Convention will be held with the Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe, North Carolina, on Saturday, September 16 from 10:00-12:00 a. m. The directions to the church are: Going east from New Bern, take Highway 55 to Grantsboro. Then turn right on Highway 306 to Arapahoe. Lunch will be served by the host church.

Things to note:

1. There will be no report blank or registration fee at this convention. However, an offering will be taken.

2. Projects to raise money for are: Camp Vandemere and Mount Olive College Hall. Send monies to me or bring it to the convention. We have until our spring convention to work on these.

3. Declamation and essay themes to be announced.

4. Bible Bowl Quiz book, TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE, may be purchased from the press or any Bible bookstore where they may be found. ($1.25). The books, Romans-Revelation, will be used, I plan to have the rules at the convention or, if you request, I will mail them to you.

Our fall program will consist of information, singspiration, and inspiration. Our special guests will be two famous puppets! I dare you to come and meet them!

Please pray for your officers and convention. May God bless each of you.

Margaret Ard
Eastern District Youth Chairman
Route 1
Pink Hill, N. C. 28572
Phone: 568-4685

Story Corner

(Continued from Page 13)

When he had finished, they took him to the rooftop to show him the room they had fixed for him.

"It is for you. We wanted to have a place that you might rest and study."

Elisha thought the room was wonderful. "You have been so kind to me, and I know you are always kind to people! What can I do for you? Is there something you would like for me to ask the king?"

"Oh, no! There is nothing we want in return for this. We are perfectly happy as we are. We just wanted to do this to show God how thankful we are."

Elisha said, "I know how you love children, and you have none of your own. I shall ask God to send you a little boy."

"Surely there is nothing on this earth that could make us any happier," said the good lady.

It was just as the prophet had said. They had a little baby boy born to them. Their happiness was complete. They had a child of their own to love and care for.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**



SPECIAL REMINDER

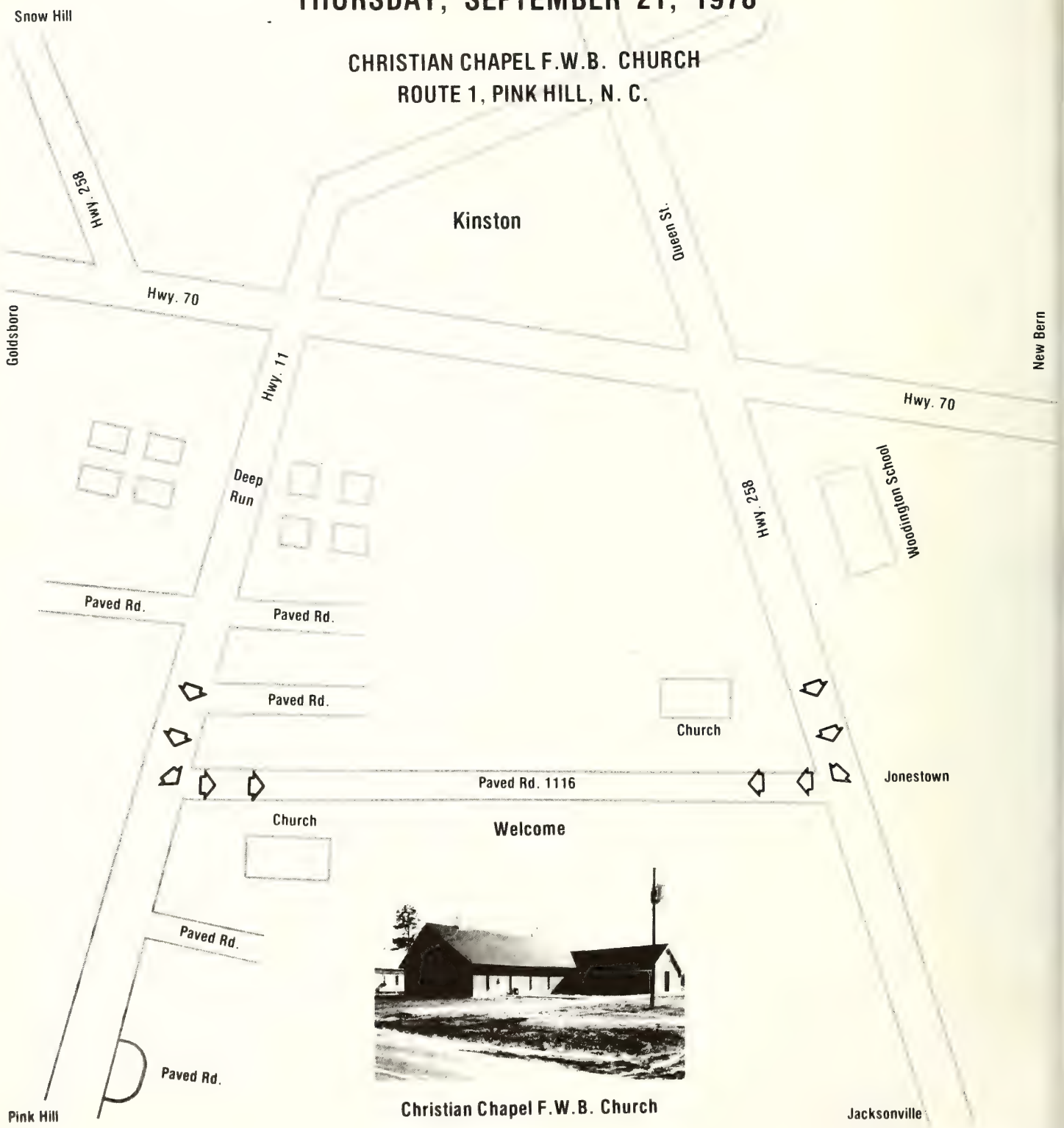
Don't forget to bring a busload to the State Mission Rally to be held at the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium on Highways 301 & 95 South of Fayetteville, North Carolina. Time: 7:30 until 8:45 p. m. Please remember to bring a generous offering for Home and Foreign Missions.

All Roads Lead To The

EASTERN DISTRICT WA CONVENTION

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1978

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

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Volume 93 Number 35

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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TWIST THE FACTS: SELL NEWS

Ruth Carter Stapleton, evangelist-sister of the President, was apparently misinterpreted, misquoted—or both—in a recent cover article in NEWSWEEK. She issued a written statement of faith to "refute the effects of the article" during a press conference at the opening of the Christian Booksellers Association convention held in Denver, Colorado.

It seems that the NEWSWEEK story suggested that Mrs. Stapleton endorsed possibly the *worst* of heresies—that *Christ was only human, and not in reality the Son of God.* It is inexcusable for any magazine, reporter, or news agency to issue half-truths, to say nothing of ascribing out-and-out falsified information about persons and / or their beliefs!

We can imagine Mrs. Stapleton's dismay, if not her ire, at the errors contained in the article which caused a lot of people to look askance at her ministry. While we do not agree with her on all points of doctrine or practice, we certainly have no personal reason to doubt her sincerity, nor to question her regarding her belief in the divinity of Christ.

Even while her brother was running for the Presidency and she had ample opportunity to urge support for him, she stayed out of politics as much as possible. She was heard to say on numerous occasions, "I've just come to talk about *Jesus.*" She has been heard to lift Him up in numerous conversations and religious services.

The NEWSWEEK article in question contained 21 errors in all, according to Mrs. Stapleton; and the writers excused the erroneous reporting, she said, by allowing that "This is NEWSWEEK and we have to be controversial sometimes."

If there were any doubt concerning Mrs. Stapleton's faith in Christ as the divine Son of God, she should have allayed such fears with the main thrust of her statement: "I am an orthodox Christian and hold to all the historic doctrines of classical Christianity. . . I believe Jesus Christ is the only mediator between God and man, and that salvation is by God's grace alone and is secured by faith in Christ as the living, bodily-resurrected Son of God who died for my sins upon the Cross."

It has long been the practice of magazines, newspapers, and the media in general to add a twist or raise a subtle question in the minds of the readers to spark interest. Such techniques are effective toward securing reader appeal and, consequently, increasing circulation, thus fattening the purses of publishers. But we regret that unfair tactics must be employed to gain the desired end.

Surely, we have been around long enough to know that bad news is the kind that sells, and that mankind (for some perverted reason) enjoys having the veracity of an individual—especially a professing Christian—questioned and doubted. Nothing makes the devil happier than to make the followers of the Lord suspect. It is therefore imperative that we as a group of believers (and as individuals) be careful of what we say, do, or even *think.* We *must* take care, lest we give those who watch with scrutinizing eyes cause to cite examples where we have fallen short of our calling.

There is hardly a burden more difficult to bear than that of trying to live right and having someone nitpick your character. We must endure this kind of annoyance as long as the devil and his tempters wage war against the Christian. It behooves us, then, to live above and beyond the world and to fortify ourselves daily with prayers and Bible reading, all the while maintaining our trust in the Lord.

Because of her reputation and popularity, Mrs. Stapleton was able to rectify the situation that cast a shadow in her direction. We might not be so fortunate. Who knows? There might be those watching us who would welcome the opportunity of twisting the facts in order to sell bad news about us which could ruin our testimony for life. There are people who glory in such shameful pursuits.

"I WAS THAT CHILD"

(The following story was told to the State Youth Convention by Charles Warren.)

ACCORDING to Dr. Sidney M. Jourard, noted psychologist and author of several textbooks on Humanistic Psychology, the family structure is the basic cornerstone in the development of a healthy personality. I happen to agree with Dr. Jourard. But what happens when circumstances dictate otherwise, and the family structure is allowed to fall apart? Let's look at the case of an individual with whom I am very familiar.

He was born into a family of seven children. His father was a sharecropper and very poor. But life as a small child was pretty good. His basic needs were met, and there were the Jaycees to see that Christmas was what it should be. But, most of all, he had the love of his six brothers and sisters and parents.

One morning he was awakened to the sound of his father's heavy body falling to the floor, the result of a heart attack. He was lying there, not moving, and the boy wondered what had happened. Later, some men came and took his father away in an ambulance. They knew, but how could he?

In a short while his mother returned in a car with an unfamiliar word written on the side—CORONER. She was crying uncontrollably as she got out of the car and ran inside the house where they lived. She didn't have to tell him; he could feel it as she ran right by his outstretched arms to the comfort of her solitude. His father was dead.

The insecurity brought about as a result of this loss made life very difficult for a ten-year-old. His mother was drinking every day now. She no longer looked for a job, just for those destestable old men he despised so much.

His mother would sometimes stay away from home for weeks at the time. Sometimes the police would bring her home, but always she would leave again.

He and his brothers and sisters had become pretty good at cooking and providing for themselves.

There was never any school any more, for whenever the school bus came they would simply wave it on! Staying at home was a lot more fun.

Sometimes he and his brothers would hitch-hike nine miles to the nearest town and do a little shoplifting. All in all, life was "OK."

And then one day someone from a nearby community came and took all the kids to the police station. There it was decided that a favorite aunt would come and pick them up. Later the kids were split up among several aunts and uncles. As a result, they saw very little of each other.

It seemed there was always talk about a Children's Home where they could all go and live and be together again. A place where there were other kids in similar situations, all living and working together.

Surely they could not live with their mother any longer, as she was now serving a two-year prison sentence at the state penitentiary in Raleigh for child neglect.

So it was decided that they would go to live at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex, North Carolina.

Life at the Children's Home was certainly different from what he was accustomed to! Now he had to go to school every day! It seemed there was always work to be done. At the Children's Home they had hogs, cows, chickens and even turkeys. On the farm they raised corn, wheat, tobacco, and a pretty large vegetable garden. But you know, even with all the work, there always seemed to be time for fishing in the pond, swimming in the pool, or playing baseball, basketball, football, or chasing the girls! At Christmas there was a big party and every one got lots of nice things.

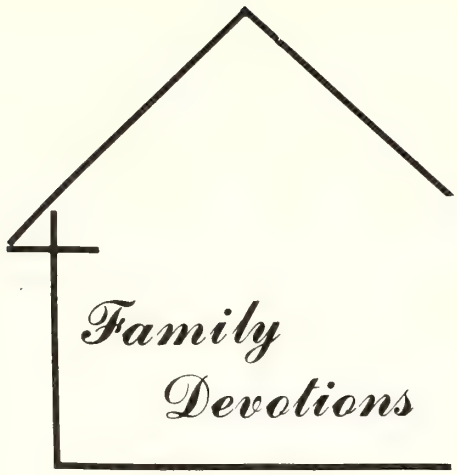
Later as he got older, he developed several interests: a sincere interest in school, as he was now a member of the National Beta Club; football, which he played all four years of high school, making All-Conference first team as left linebacker and playing on a conference championship team in his senior year; his third interest proved to be the most lasting, as he would marry her later.

After graduating from high school and being accepted at several colleges, he did something considered by those people who claimed to know him to be quite foolish. He got married!

In retrospect, I believe he was looking for the security of the family structure he had once known.

That was five years ago and I am happy to report that he found it. Today he lives in Rocky Mount and works for Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co., has a lovely wife and a beautiful little girl.

This is just one case from the hundreds of cases of kids who have been a part of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Many other kids have gone on to be far more successful; others have been less successful; some have been lost to the pressures and complexities of a childhood without their parents. But the thing that each child was given that he or she would not otherwise have had was an apportunity to do with his or her life whatever it was they wished to do. For this the Free Will Baptists can be very proud.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 53:6

FACT, NOT FEELING

In a gospel meeting a penitent woman was seeking salvation. The evangelist quoted to her anxious soul the assurance of Isaiah 53:6, and led her to simply take God at His Word, and to depend upon Christ for the remission of sin. She went home rejoicing, but the next morning came downstairs with tears in her eyes. Her little boy, who had been with her in the meeting the night before, asked, "Mamma, what is troubling you?" "Oh," was the answer, "last night I felt that I was saved. But now it seems like a dream. I fear I am deceived." "Mamma," said the little lad, "get your Bible and turn to Isaiah 53:6." She did so and read, "The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." "Mamma, is the verse still there?" "Yes, my son." "Then your sins were laid on Jesus," said the wise lad. The mother saw the truth. She took God's Word without regard to her feelings, and then God's peace came to stay.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are to trust in Jesus with all our heart. He will never leave us, even when we are down and out.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—John 14:2

NEVER SAY "GOOD-BY"

In ancient Rome a guard felt sorry for a Christian prisoner, who was soon to die because of his faith in Christ. He secretly allowed his daughter to visit him. After she was gone the guard stared at his prisoner. "Why do you gaze at me?" he asked. "Because you do not seem worried," was the answer. "You are to die tomorrow. Tonight you saw your daughter for the last time." "Oh, but you are wrong," exclaimed the prisoner. "I shall see her again. My daughter is a Christian, too. She will soon follow me. Christians never see one another for the last time. They meet in Heaven, there to live forever. Now do you understand why I am happy and why I am ready to die for my Christian faith?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it wonderful to live on forever? Jesus has gone to prepare you a place. Are you ready to join Him?

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Acts 16:31

FEELING OR BELIEVING?

Someone asked Luther, "Do you feel that you have been forgiven?"
He answered, "NO! but I'm as sure as there's a God in Heaven.
For feelings come and feelings go, and feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God, nought else is worth believing.
Though all my heart should feel condemned for want of some sweet token,
There is One greater than my heart whose word cannot be broken.
I'll trust in God's unchanging Word till soul and body sever;
For though all things shall pass away His Word shall stand forever."

PRAYER THOUGHT

The Bible tells us to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and we will be saved. How many of us truly believe?

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians

MY ANCHOR HOLDS

A sailor in Gloucester, Mass., had been wounded in a wreck and was brought ashore. The fever was great, and he was dying. His comrades gathered around him in a little fishing house, and the physician said, "He won't live long." The sailor was out of his mind until near the close. But within a few minutes of his death he looked around, and calling one comrade after another, bade them good-by, and then sank off to sleep. Finally, as it was time for the medicine again, one of the sailors rousing him, said, "Mate, how are you now?" He looked up to the face of his friends and said, "My anchor holds!" These were his last words. And when they called upon a friend of mine to take charge of the funeral service, how powerful was the impression made upon his hearers when he quoted the dying words: "My anchor holds!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Christ is the Captain of the ship and His anchor does hold through all the storms of life.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23

HIS SHEPHERD FOREVER

A Scottish minister was instructing a small boy in the home of one of his parishioners, and he was having him read the Twenty-third Psalm. "The Lord is my shepherd," began the little boy; but he was interrupted by the old minister. "Nae, nae," he said, "ye dinna read it richt." Again the little boy began, slowly and earnestly, "The—Lord—is—my—shepherd." But again he was stopped. "Nae, ye dinna read it richt yet," the old minister said, shaking his head. "Now watch me"—and holding up his left hand he placed the forefinger of his right hand on the thumb of the left and said, "The"—then to the next finger, "Lord"—and to the next, "is"—and then grasping firmly the fourth finger, he said, "You TAKE HOLD on the fourth one and say, 'My.'" "Oh," exclaimed the little boy, "it's 'The Lord is MY shepherd!' " Not long afterward the little boy followed the sheep out to pasture one morning, and later the broken little body was found at the foot of a steep cliff, over which he had evidently fallen by accident. The life was gone, but the grief-stricken parents saw one thing that cheered their hearts, for the little right hand, though cold in death, was clasped firmly upon the fourth finger

of his left, and they knew that their little laddie was safe in the arms of HIS Shepherd.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of us as children learned the Twenty-third Psalm? Can you say it today? Does it have greater meaning than when you were a little child? Is it because you are a child of God?

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 32:17

BETTER EXAMINE THE BRIDGE!

An extract from a letter written by a minister to a brother minister whose faith was failing through illness: "Are you not making the mistake of examining your faith rather than the promises upon which that faith should rest? If you were traveling a new public highway and should approach a bridge of whose strength you were not satisfied, would you stop to examine your faith in that bridge, or dismount and examine the structure itself? Common sense would tell you to examine the bridge, and then, when satisfied of its strength, you would cross over with confidence. So now I beg you, dear brother, look away to the promises that were made by God whom you have served so long, and trust Him though He slay you. Remember the bridge."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you ever approached a bridge that didn't look very steady? Were you afraid to cross it? We should never be afraid to follow Jesus.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—Mark 1:15

"TASTE AND SEE!"

An infidel was lecturing to a great audience and, having finished his address, he invited any who had questions to ask to come on the platform. After a short interval, a man who had been well known in the town as a notorious drunkard, but who had lately been converted, stepped forward, and taking an orange from his pocket, coolly began to peel it. The lecturer asked him to propound his question, but without replying to him the man finished peeling his orange, and then ate it. When he had finished his orange he turned to the lecturer and asked him if it was a sweet one. Very angry, the man said, "Idiot, how can I know whether it was sweet or sour, when I never tasted it?" To this the converted drunkard retorted, "And how can you know anything about Christ, if you have not tried Him."

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of you as children would sit down to a table of food and not try a certain dish because you did not like the looks of it? Or maybe sometimes you would taste it and find that it was delicious? This is just the way it is with Jesus. His love is there if we would only accept it.

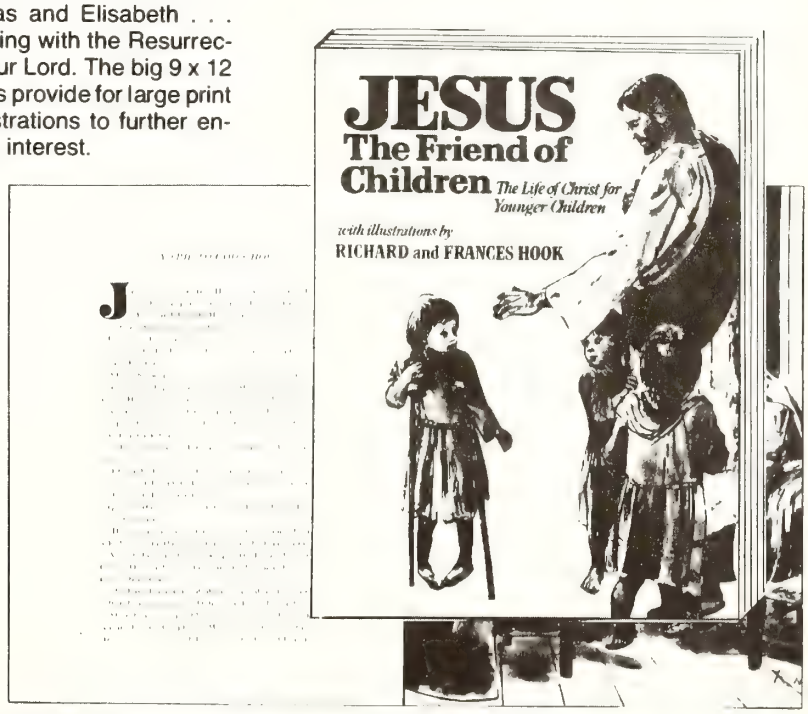
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"FAITH AND WORKS"

by Graham Faucette

The Bible condemns the sin of favor to one person over another. "My brethren have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons" (James 2:1). Apparently the practice of some of James' readers was to give honor to the rich and to ignore or despise the poor in the church. The magnitude of this sin of partiality is demonstrated in several particulars. It is a sin against Christ. Faith in the Lord of glory is incompatible with classification of humanity with respect to race, position, or material wealth (Galatians 3:28).

The Apostle Paul learned that God is "no respecter of persons" (Acts 10:34). Paul said that Christians are to know "no man after the flesh" (2 Corinthians 5:16). Because he had become a new man in Christ, Paul refused to make judgments of other men on superficial or outward appearances, which are often the foundation for non-Christian evaluations. Again, the sin of partiality favors the rich against the poor (James 2:2-4). In the assembly, the rich were given the preferred places and the poor were herded into places of contempt.

The same problem is still found in human society, and only a careful application of the gospel of Christ can solve the difficulty. Furthermore, the sin of practicality dishonors the chosen of God (James 2:5-7). The obedient in Christ, though poor in things material, are rich in faith and are just as much "heirs of the kingdom" as any others. If the poor in Christ are dishonored while deference is given to the rich, the evaluation is not authorized of God. It violates His code of ethical values. Today, outside the church, there is a collapse of morals, as evidenced in our own nation. Divine law demands love and respect for neighbor as for self (James 2:8-13). God's Law is a unity, and when a portion of it is broken, the entire law is broken. As we well know, the conduct of the Christian is judged by the "law of liberty" the gospel (Romans 2:16).

The Bible demands correction of the "do nothing" attitude. "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him" (James 2:14)? Apparently there were some who thought that faith in God, without any of the works of faith, would save them. James had argued the necessity of hearers being doers of the word (James 1:22). The man who heard without doing anything, James said, looked at himself in the mirror, and failed to discern his own blemishes or scars. We are apt to overlook our own defects in the same way. Such is the hearer who never gets around to doing the will of God. He is hopeless. True faith results in correction of the "doing nothing" attitude.

The Bible exposes the fallacy of faith alone. "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone (James 2:17). James recognizes that one may say to the need, "depart in peace, be warmed and filled." But does that make them warm or filled? Not if "ye give them not those things which are needful to the body." If we only give good wishes, what doth it profit? "Nothing." Without helping those who need help, faith is dead.

The Bible brings evidence from the spiritual morgue. "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also" (James 2:26). Faith apart from works is a corpse, just as death comes to the body when works fail. If faith is allowed to slump into inaction, it may easily rot into infidelity.

A congregation had argued for several weeks on faith and works, and could not arrive at an answer. Finally an old fisherman arose and said, "Brethren, if you will meet me at the dock tomorrow morning, I believe I can answer this question for you." The next morning several of the members arrived at the dock to find the old fisherman waiting for them in a row boat. In each hand he held an oar. On one oar was painted the word, "FAITH" and on the other "WORK." As they watched the old man shoved off from the dock and rowed a few strokes with both oars. Then he placed the oar labeled "WORKS" in the boat and rowed only with the oar labeled "FAITH." Of course the boat just went around in a circle. Then he switched oars and rowed with the oar labeled "WORKS," again the boat just went around in a circle, but this time in the opposite direction.

Never again did the people quibble about which was more important, faith or works.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. James Warren of 1000 Poplar Street, Jackson Heights Section, Kinston, North Carolina, announced that he is available for a full-time church.

Mr. Warren is a member of the Eastern Conference and is in good standing with the conference. He can be reached by calling 527-1648 or by writing him at 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501. He is available to come on any Sunday to conduct services.

Coming Events . . .

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 8—Sunday School Superintendents' and Pastors' Banquet, King's Restaurant, Kinston, sponsored by the North Carolina State Sunday School Convention, registration 7 p. m., meal served at 7:30 p. m.

September 13, 14—North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville

September 13—State Mission Rally, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium, Fayetteville, North Carolina, 7:30 to 8:45 p. m.

September 16—Eastern District Youth Fellowship Convention, 10 a. m., Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe

September 30—Youth Convention, King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, 7:30 p. m.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

FRESHMEN VISIT WITH DEAN



From left to right are Lynn Tedder of Piney Grove church in Lucama; Candy Willis; Vicky Pate; Dr Wiley; and Candace Wilson, all from St. Mary's church in Wilson.

Dr. Wayne Wiley, Dean of Mount Olive College, visits with four Free Will Baptist freshmen at the President's reception held at the opening of school at the home of College President, Dr. W. Burkette Raper.

COLLEGE DINNERS PLANNING MEETINGS SET

The planning meetings for the annual Church College Dinners have been set in the following counties:

Carteret County—Saturday, September 9 at 7:30 p. m. at the Crab Point church near Morehead City.

Craven County—Thursday, September 7 at 8 p. m. at Saint Mary's church in New Bern.

Greene County—Thursday, September 7 at 7:30 p. m. at Hull Road church near Snow Hill.

Onslow-New Hanover Counties —Friday, September 15 at 7:30 p. m. at Folkstone church.

Pamlico County—Sunday, September 10 at 3 p. m. at Mount Zion church near Vandemere.

Pitt County—Monday, September 11 at 8 p. m. at Reedy Branch church near Winterville.

Wayne County—Thursday, September 7 at 8 p. m. at First Free Will Baptist church in Goldsboro.

As additional planning meetings are set up they will be announced.

Every church represented at the planning meetings will receive a copy of **Let God Manage Your Money** by Gordon McLean.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE DINNERS FOR 1978

W. Burkette Raper, President



David Charles Hansley

Since 1963 Mount Olive College has held an annual series of seventeen dinners with approximately 200 churches in eastern North Carolina participating. These dinners will continue this fall on much the same plan as in previous years.

Co-directors of the dinners will be Mrs. Jean Ackiss, Secretary to the President, and the Rev. David Charles Hansley, pastor of Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County.

David Charles is well-known throughout the State among Original Free Will Baptists and has previously served on the development staff of the College. His services with the College will be on a part-time basis so that he can continue his pastoral work with Daniels Chapel and remain in the church parsonage.

The administrative work for the dinners will be centralized at the College (telephone (919) 658-2502), but persons who need to contact him directly can do so at (919) 243-2013.

We are grateful to our pastors and layworkers who have helped to make our annual dinners an outstanding success. The dinners have become an established part of the annual denominational activities among Original Free Will Baptists and we believe they are destined to fill an even greater role in the continued development and growth of Mount Olive College. In addition to being a means of significant financial support for the College, they have been the means of

(Continued on Page 13)

NEWS & NOTES

Hopper Brothers and Connie To be at Marlboro Church



Hopper Brothers and Connie

On Thursday night, September 14, the Hopper Brothers and Connie will be at the Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church. The service will begin at 7:30 p. m.

Building upon a solid foundation of almost twenty years of singing the gospel, the Hopper Brothers and Connie have the sound and message for today's Christians. Their genuine warmth and excitement make them one of the most widely loved and respected groups on the road today.

The pastor, the Rev. Scott Sowers, and members of the church invite everyone to attend this service.

Parsonage Fund Raising Singspiration Sweet Gum Grove Church

There will be a parsonage fund raising singspiration at Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Stokes, on September 10 from 3 to 7 p. m. featuring "The Melody Makers" of Black Jack, "The Gospel Quartet" of Parkers Chapel, "The Roadrunners for Christ" and "The Friendly Four" from Sweet Gum Grove plus the church choir and many others. Contributions will go toward building the parsonage. The pastor, the Rev. Joe Hudson, and the congregation invites everyone to attend.

Saint Mary's Church Has Homecoming



Rev. James A. Evans

Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, near Kenly, will celebrate its thirty-first annual homecoming on Sunday, September 10. Services will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. The Rev. James A. Evans, former pastor, now in semi-retirement, will deliver the homecoming message. The noon meal will be served in the fellowship building.

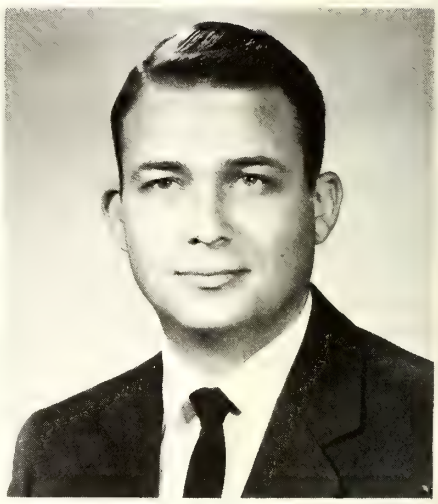
Special features of the day's activities will be a memorial service in honor of those members who have received their promotion to glory during the past year and the dedication of a new church organ. The activities for the day will close with a singspiration. Many groups have been invited to participate. A special invitation is extended to all former pastors, members, and friends to share in worship and celebration on this day.

First Church, Tarboro Observe 25 Anniversary

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, will observe its 25th anniversary and annual homecoming on Sunday, September 24. In addition to former members, pastors, and their families, the congregation requests that mission board members, evangelists, and others that worked with them in getting the church organized and established make plans to celebrate the anniversary.

The day's program will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 and morning worship at 11 a. m. Other events will include a dedication service, lunch in the fellowship building, special singing, and evening service at 7:30 p. m.

Rosebud Church Announces Homecoming



Dr. Michael Pelt

Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, near Wilson, will be having homecoming services September 10. Dr. Michael Pelt from Mount Olive College will preach the morning message. The homecoming meal will follow in the fellowship building. There will be an afternoon song service. The pastor, the Rev. Bruce Steadman, invites everyone to attend.

Sidney Church Has Kiss Your Baby Campaign

The Sidney Free Will Baptist Youth Auxiliary of Belhaven, chairperson for the Kiss Your Baby Campaign for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in the Sidney and

Ransomville areas, announces that the campaign has been completed. Total funds collected were $102.53. Mrs. Ellen Jones, leader, explains that the funds will be used for research, care, treatment, and teaching to help those youngsters suffering with cystic fibrosis, asthma, emphysema, bronchiectasis, and bronchitis. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in North Carolina supports the Duke CF Center at Duke Medical Center in Durham along with 110 other such centers in the country. 150,000 North Carolina youngsters suffer with these uncurable lung disease. 260,000 adults in North Carolina carry the cystic fibrosis gene. Cystic Fibrosis occurs in 1 in 1,600 births when both parents are carriers of the gene. Life expectancy for CF patients is age 18. 82 percent of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's dollar is used for Research and Medical Care, Clinical Fellowship, Public and Professional Information and Education, and Community Services.

Sixty-Sixth Annual Session
N. C. State Convention

The Sixty-Sixth Annual Session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists will meet at the Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium in Fayetteville, North Carolina, on September 13, 14, 1978. The scheduled program is as follows:

Wednesday, September 13, 1978

Morning Session

8:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates
9:30—Convention Called to Order, the Rev. David Charles Hansley
—Congregational Singing, the Rev. Clyde Cox, Director
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Fred Johnson
9:50—Welcome, the Rev. Alton Howard
—Response, the Rev. C. L. Patrick
9:55—Partial Report of the Credentials Committee, the Rev. DeWayne Eakes
—Recognition of Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
10:05—President's Message, the Rev. Robert May
10:20—Report of Foreign Missions
10:40—Children's Home Report
11:00—Morning Worship
—Music: Robert's Grove Ladies Trio
—Congregational Singing
—Offering
—Introductory Sermon, the Rev. N. B. Barrow
12:00—Noon Recess

Afternoon Session

1:00—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, Miss Sarah Willoughby
1:15—Report of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.
1:30—Report of General Conference
1:40—Business Session:
—Report of Executive Committee
—Report of Christian Action League, the Rev. Bill Wallace
—Report of Commission on Scouting
—Report of State Woman's Auxiliary Convention
—Report of North Carolina Ministerial Association
2:30—Music: Robert's Grove Ladies Trio
—Business Session Continues:
—Report of State Sunday School Convention
—Report of State League Convention
—Report of Home Missions and Church Extension
—Report of Superannuation Board
—Report of Retirement Homes
—Report of Church Finance Association
—Report of Camp Vandemere
—Report of Carolina Bible Institute
—Report of Chaplain's Commission
—Report of Cragmont Assembly
—Miscellaneous Business

Evening Session

7:30—Missionary Rally, Cumberland County Memorial Auditorium

Thursday, September 14, 1978

Morning Session

9:30—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, Mr. Johnnie Howell
9:45—Business Session:
—Final Report of Credentials Committee
—Report of Layman's League Board
—Report of the Historical Commission
—Progress Report of the Subcommittee on the Revision of Statement of Faith and Discipline
10:25—Miscellaneous Business
10:40—Report of Mount Olive College
11:00—Morning Worship
—Special Music
—Congregational Singing
—Offering
—Sermon, the Rev. Cedric Pierce Jr.
12:00—Noon Recess

Afternoon Session

1:00—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Clyde Cox
—Music: Robert's Grove Ladies Trio
1:25—Report of Obituary Committee
—Report of Temperance Committee
—Report of Resolutions Committee
—Report of Nominating Committee
—Report of Treasurer, Mrs. Frank L. Walston
—Adjournment and Benediction
Song Director, the Rev. Clyde Cox
Pianist, Mr. Gary Barefoot

NOTICE!

The youth convention scheduled for September 9 at Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Wilson, has been postponed. It will be held at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, Saturday, September 30, 1978, at 7:30 p. m.

Mrs. Jack Dail,
Youth Chairman

Spring Branch Church
Changes Date of Revival

Revival services will be held on September 18-22, at the Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, near Walstonburg, instead of September 4-8. Services will begin each night at 7:30 with special singing.

(Continued on Page 13)

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For September 17

RESOURCES FOR THE DISCIPLINED LIFE

Lesson Text: Galatians 5:25—6:1
Memory Verse: Galatians 5:25

I. INTRODUCTION

"I'm my own worst enemy." How many of us have said that ruefully, realizing that we have said or done something that has injured us? We may be even more remorseful when we realize that we have hurt someone else.

We may find some comfort in noting that the best of people have the same problem. Peter was an inspired apostle, and his teaching was always right. Yet Paul once had to call him to account because he was not living up to his own right teaching (Galatians 2:11-14).

Paul himself was no better. Sadly he confessed, "The good that I would, I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do" (Romans 7:19). Most of us sometimes are disappointed in ourselves in the same way.

Why is this true? If I want to do what is good why do I leave it undone? If I don't want to do wrong, why do I do it? Two reasons are easily seen.

First, it is true that I am my own enemy. There is something in me that pulls in the wrong direction. Paul calls it sin living in me (Romans 7:20). James calls it my own lust, my own desire (James 1:14). It is as if there were two of me, one pulling toward right and one pulling toward wrong. Psychiatrists recognize an abnormal condition called split personality, but you don't have to be a mental case to have conflict within yourself. All normal people have it at times.

Second, I have some powerful enemies besides myself. Some of these are briefly mentioned in the text of this lesson (Ephesians 6:12). Their chief is the devil himself. Though he is ferocious as a roaring lion (1 Peter 5:8), he is also exceeding tricky. He likes to masquerade as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14). Paul was not ignorant of his devices (2 Corinthians 2:11), but sometimes I recognize them too late.

I need not be ashamed to admit that the enemies are too much for me. The evil part of my own nature is bad enough. When it is reinforced by the devil and his allies, I surely will be overwhelmed unless I have some powerful help for the better side of my own nature.

Fortunately such help is available. The Holy Spirit is given to me when I become a Christian (Acts 2:38). Thereafter He lives with me, even in me (1 Corinthians 6:19). He gives me victory, but not unless I do my best. His strength supports mine, but does not replace it. He leads me to do right, but does not compel me. I still choose right or wrong on my own, but if I choose right with my whole heart, I can do right with the help of the Spirit.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. For the past two Sundays our lessons have dealt with Christian living in general, with special emphases on the disciplined Christian life. We have tried to learn what the disciplined life means, why it is necessary, and what some of the incentives for a disciplined life are.

B. In this study and the one for next Sunday we will look beyond the explanation of and the need for the disciplined life. We will explore some of the resources for living a disciplined life and how it may best be expressed. God's Word does not tell us what we should do without telling us how we may do it, as well as how we may express His will in our daily lives.

C. A sainted Christian woman, who had lived many rich and full years for Christ, was once asked her secret of victory. How had she done so well so long? Where had she found the inspiration for it all? Had there been times when she had failed? She had the ready answer.

D. "Yes, there have been times when I failed to have complete control of my desires and feelings, but such times have been fewer than the many times when I was conqueror of myself," she said. Then she added, "Every day I found time to get on my knees with open Bible. I searched for God's instructions for my life, and found that the Word was filled with abundant resources of His infinite grace. Then I would thank Him for what He revealed to me, and would pray that I would always remain faithful. If there is any glory in this, I give it all to my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ," What a lesson this saint has for you and me!

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. God has given the Christian everything he needs to live the Christian life. Therefore, if we fail, it is not God's fault, but a sign that we deliberately choose not to go God's way.

B. Underlying all of the other resources for the Christian is the indwelling Holy Spirit. He enables us to use all of the other resources as we should. He is an abiding presence, able protection, and ample power. In fact, He is everything that we need to live for Christ as we ought.

C. Our personal relationships are among the great blessings of life. If our relationships are what they ought to be, they will make it easier for us to live for Christ. On the other hand, if our relationships are not what they should be, they can make it much more difficult.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

Woman's Auxiliary

EASTERN DISTRICT WA CONVENTION CHRISTIAN CHAPEL CHURCH

The E tern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will convene at Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Pink Hill, North Carolina, on September 21. The theme of the program will be "Bring Forth Fruit". The Scripture verse will be taken from 2 Corinthians 9:6: "He which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." The scheduled program is as follows:

Morning Session

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn 501, "When We All Get to Heaven"
—Devotion and Prayer, Mrs. Rena Kirk
—Special Music, Mrs. Annie Bell Hin s
—We ome, Mrs. Lois Blizzard, Host Auxiliary President
—Recognition of Ministers, Officers and Delegates
—Remarks by, Mrs. John W. Taylor, District President
—Presentation of Pin Awards, Mrs. Ellis Banks
—Business Session
11:15—Hymn 444, "Bringing In the Sheaves"
—Offering
11:25—Special Music, the Ard Family
—Message, the Rev. Norman Ard, Pastor of Christian Chapel Church
12:00—Lunch

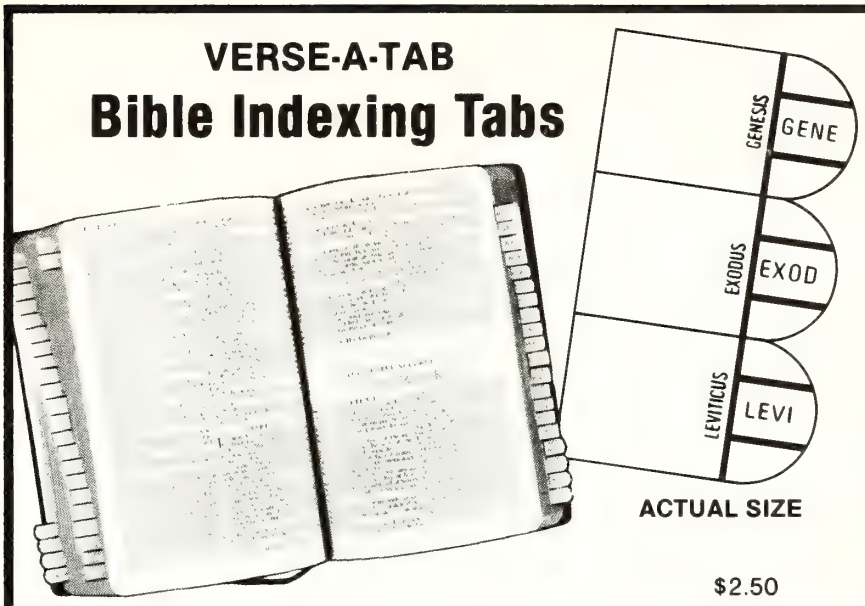
Afternoon Session

1:00—Spe l Music, the Ard Family
—Prayer
1:15—Memorial Services, Mrs. James A. Evans
1:30—Denominational Reports
2:00—Miscellaneous Business
—Benediction

Music Director, Mrs. Margaret Ard
Pianist, Miss Marla Ard

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SEPTEMBER 13, 14

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ABRAHAM'S OBEDIENCE TO GOD

ABRAHAM and his wife, Sarah, were getting to be old. They had no children and were very lonely. God had appeared to Abraham, many years ago, and told him that his children would be so numerous they would be as the grains of the sand. Of course, Abraham had believed God, but he and Sarah were getting to be so old they were beginning to wonder.

Then, one day, a wonderful thing happened. God did send them a baby. It was a boy named Isaac. Can you imagine how happy the parents must have been? They had been lonely for many years! Now God had sent them a happy baby boy.

Because he was their only son, Isaac was loved by the parents very much. They did everything they could to make him happy. They also taught him that he must love God; and, more than anything else in the world, he must obey God. It did not matter what God wanted him to do, he must do it without questioning.

One day, when Isaac was still a boy, God spoke to Abraham. "Abraham," He called.

Abraham looked into the heavens and answered, "Behold, here I am."

God's voice boomed from the heavens, "Take now, your son, Isaac, whom you love so dearly, and go into the land of Moriah and offer him as a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will show to you."

This was a hard thing for Abraham to understand. God had given him a son to love. He had waited so long, so many years, for this son! Now God wanted him to burn the boy as a sacrifice. It was perhaps the hardest thing Abraham ever had to do. He knew, however, that he must obey God, even if it meant giving up his only son.

Early in the morning of the next day, Abraham arose and saddled the donkeys. He and Isaac gathered the things they would need for the long journey and the sacrifice; then they started out on the long, long journey.

When they had ridden for three days, Abraham, saw the mountains God had mentioned. "Isaac, my son. We will climb this mountain and there we will offer a sacrifice for God. We will worship Him."

"But, Father, where is the lamb for the offering? Surely we cannot worship God without a lamb for the sacrifice."

Sadly Abraham looked at his son; he could not bear to tell him he was to be the sacrifice. Instead, he said, "God will provide for Himself a lamb for the offering."

Together they climbed the mountain; and when they had reached the top, they gathered wood and stones for the altar and sacrificial fire.

They took the stones and built an altar and laid the wood on the top.

Then Abraham, with tears in his eyes, tied Isaac to the altar. He was about to plunge the knife into Isaac to kill him when he heard an angel speak from the heavens. The angel said, "Abraham, Abraham."

Thankfully Abraham held back the knife. To delay the act only for a minute would be a blessing to him. His son would live for a moment longer. He looked into the heavens and said, "Here am I."

The angel said, "Do not lay a hand on the boy. Neither do you anything to him: for now I know that you fear God. Because you do not hold back even your only son from Him."

Abraham was so happy when he heard the voice of the angel! Quickly he untied Isaac. I imagine they put their arms around each other and cried for joy. Then he heard a noise behind them. They turned around to look. There in the bushes was a ram, caught by the horns. Abraham and Isaac took the ram and offered it as a sacrifice to God.

Then Abraham heard the voice of the angel for the second time, "Because you have been obedient to the Lord, even to the giving up of your son, I will bless you and the world through your son. Through you and your children and your children's children shall the world be blessed."

Abraham loved God and feared Him enough to sacrifice his only son. God loved you and me enough to sacrifice His only Son for us. Can you realize how unhappy it must have made God to look down and see His only Son die, hanging on the Cross? He did it just for you and me. Just as Abraham sacrificed Jesus in our place.

Abraham loved God and feared Him enough to sacrifice his only son. God loved you and me enough to sacrifice His only Son for us. Can you realize how unhappy it must have made God to look down and see His only Son die, hanging

on the Cross? He did it just for you and me. Just as Abraham sacrificed Jesus in our place. He did it so that we might live with Him forever in Heaven. But, in order for us to claim this reward, we must have accepted Christ as the sacrifice for us. We must show how much we love Christ for dying for us. We must obey Him in everything He wants us to do. We must ask Him to guide us and tell us what He wants us to do. Then we must do it without asking a question. Often you ask your parents, "Why?" when they ask you to do something. We must not ask Christ why. We must do as He asks. If we are obedient to Him, we may claim that He died in our place, and we can claim the reward in Heaven.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

MOUNT OLIVE

(Continued from Page 7)

strengthening the relationship between the College and the Church and they have also fostered good fellowship among our church people.

More than 3,000 people attended the 1977 dinners through which gifts in excess of $100,000 were presented. This year our goal is $120,000, a goal we can readily attain with the cooperation and support of our many friends who believe in the vital Christian ministry of the College.

Together, let us build a Christian College for our children, for our Church and for God.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will preach the homecoming message at Northern Free Will Baptist Church in Bahama outside Durham on Sunday, September 10, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Harry Brown is pastor.

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 9)

The evangelist for the week will be the Rev. Bobby Taylor, pastor of Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church. The pastor, the Rev. Royce Reynolds, and the congregation extend an invitation to everyone to attend.

Piney Grove Church Announces Homecoming and Revival

Two annual events will be held during September at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Beaufort County.



Rev. C. L. Patrick

The fall revival meeting will begin September 11. The Rev. C. L. Patrick, pastor of Free Union church, near Walstonburg, will be the guest evangelist. Special music will be featured each night by groups of singers from the area. The pastor, the Rev. Beverly Ballard, joins the congregation in inviting the public to attend these services. The time is 7:30 p. m. The dates are September 11-16.

Annual homecoming services will be held on Sunday, September 17. The pastor will be speaking at the morning worship service, beginning at 11 a. m. Lunch will be spread on the grounds and after lunch, the annual homecoming gospel singing will feature the Psalms Quartet of the Greenville-Ayden area, plus other special singers. This year, those attending may receive a Historical-Progress Booklet being compiled by Michael Ausbon and the pastor. All former members and friends of the church, along with former pastors and visitors from other churches, are being urged to attend and fellowship with the Piney Grove church, located on State Road 1001 in Beaufort County, near the Voice of America Complex, nine miles north of Washington, North Carolina.

STATEWIDE PASTORS' AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS' BANQUET

September 8, 1978

KING'S RESTAURANT
Highway 70, in Kinston, North Carolina
Time—Registration begins at 7 p. m.
Meal to be served 7:30 p. m.

Speaker—

Dr. Michael Pelt

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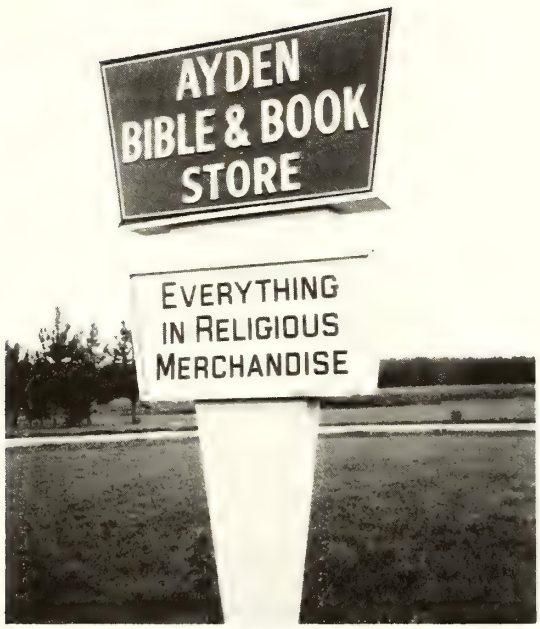
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A TRIBUTE TO MRS. SAM (MITTIE) EDWARDS

More affectionately known to the membership of Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, North Carolina, as "Ma".

Up-Hill

Does the road wind up-hill all the way?
Yes, to the very end.
Will the day's journey take the whole long day?
From morn to night, my friend.

But is there for the night a resting-place?
A roof for when the slow dark hours begin.
May not the darkness hide it from my face?
You cannot miss that inn.

Shall I meet other wayfarers at night?
Those who have gone before.
Then must I knock, or call when just in sight?
They will not keep you standing at the door.

Shall I find comfort, travel-sore and weak?
Of labor you shall find the sum.
Will there be beds for me and all who seek?
Yea, beds for all who come.

—Christina Rossetti

How encouraging is the picture presented in this poem of the Christian's pilgrimage through this world. But what a consolation it is for us to know there is a resting place for "when the slow dark hours begin." And to know that those wayfarers who have gone before, those we often call "greathearts" or "heroes of the faith," will be there when we arrive is delightful to contemplate.

"Ma" Edwards, was indeed a "greatheart" and "a hero of the faith." Those who knew her will always be challenged by her many long years of untiring devotion to her God, her church, her family, and her many friends. "Ma" Edwards, will be sorely missed. But let us remember that our loss will be Heaven's gain.

Presented by her pastor,
The Rev. Leslie Hawley

WHEN THE TRUMPET SOUNDS

by
Sallie Carraway

Oh, friends, where will you be when the trumpets sounds
And time will be no more?
Will you be in the pool room shooting pool
Or standing by some barroom door?

Could be you'd be at a picture show
Which is not decent to see;
Such places are condemned by our Lord,
And so they are by me.

The Sunday baseball games
Are another place of woe;
But it seems as if such places
Are where lots of folks want to go.

You never hear a word about the church
Or when they heard a preacher pray;
But about all those sinful places,
You hear of them day by day.

It could be you'll be in a swimming hole
Having what you call fun;
But if the Lord should call you then,
He will not say, "Well done."

His words will be, "Depart from me,
For I did my very best
To show you the way you should live,
That with me you could ever rest."

"But you heeded not my teachings
And went on your sinful way,
Leaving your Christian friends and loved ones
To wonder where you'd be on that day."

And oh how it grieves our hearts to think of you,
The ones we loved so well,
To know you have forsaken all
And thereby doomed for Hell!

WE BELIEVE:

1. That there is only one God who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the Universe; that His eternal existence is in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; that all three are equal, but distinct persons. They are the divine Trinity.

2. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God; that He was born of the Virgin Mary; that He died for man's redemption; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as our intercessor.

3. That both, the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, were given by inspiration of God, and that they only constitute the infalible rule of faith and practice.

4. That man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation and stands guilty before God and separate from Him.

5. That is the privilege of all men to be saved; that God desires the salvation of all; that the gospel invites everyone; that the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

6. That the human will is free and self-controlled; that it is possible for a person who has been saved by divine grace to make shipwreck of his faith and become lost. The person (believer) who through grace perseveres unto the end of life has promise of eternal salvation.

7. That sanctification is initial at regeneration and continues progressively through the Christian experience, becoming final and complete in heaven.

8. That there are three gospel ordinances to be perpetuated under the gospel teaching: baptism by immersion, the Lord's Supper, and washing of the saints' feet.

9. That tithing is God's financial plan for supporting the work of the church here on earth.

10. That our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who ascended on high, and sits at the right hand of God, will come again; that there will be a resurrection of all men at the last day; that they which are saved will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they which are lost unto the resurrection of damnation; that the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." This is the final judgment.

FROM ASHES TO FLAMES

This is a true story, but the names of the family have been changed.

THE man who answered the door was tall, well built and still in his thirties. I knew this must be Jim, whose home was on the brink of divorce.

"Harry Myers sent me," I explained, introducing myself. "I'm in town for a convention, and he asked me to look you up."

Jim immediately invited me in, and it wasn't long before he launched into his story. He had known Alice from the time they were very young. They had practically grown up together. They had been married thirteen years now and had two daughters—Kathy, aged eleven, and Marcelle, seven.

Jim was able to speak freely because Alice had gone away for the evening in the family car, and the two girls were next door watching television.

Very soon he had bared his heart to me, even though I was a total stranger to him. The burden he was bearing was great.

In the middle of his story the door opened and Jim's eleven-year-old daughter entered the room.

"This is Kathy, my older girl," he said.

I was struck by the look of terrible anguish upon the face of this girl.

"I was watching a program on TV over at Judy's. They were going to murder a woman, so I left," she stated.

It would have been well at that moment if the producers of some of our sadistic movies and television shows could have seen the look of horror on Kathy's face. It was plain to see that her whole being revolted at the preliminaries to the lurid crime about to be enacted. I couldn't help but wonder how many millions of boys and girls, less wise than Kathy, had their minds and souls seared by watching the consummation of the brutal murder scene itself. To some of us, it is not difficult to understand why juvenile crime is increasing by leaps and bounds.

"Where's Marcelle?" the father inquired.

"Over there watching the TV."

Jim hurried next door and soon returned with his squirming seven-year-old daughter. He put the children to bed and we returned to our conversation.

"The girls' mother has been having an affair with another man," he continued. "I sure hate to do it, but I must butcher this thing through the divorce court and obtain custody of my two girls at any cost. To add to the mess, the other man also has a wife and two kids."

"Jim, your situation is indeed desperate," I said, "but I'm glad I can suggest a solution to the whole critical problem. I have a Friend who can actually change both circumstances and people. He never fails. Have you ever definitely taken Jesus Christ into your heart and life?"

No, I haven't," Jim replied.

"Do you know, Jim, that the Bible, God's Word, contains the answer to every basic question pertaining to this life, from the cradle to the grave? It not only tells us how to prepare for the life to come, but it also instructs us how to live this life now. The Bible is in every way a very practical guide. I've been reading it every day for nearly thirty years. I know that Almighty God, through His Word, can show you the way out of your dilemma."

Jim stated that he certainly would like to know about it. So I asked him if he would like to know the starting point from which he must begin if he desired God to undertake for him in the impossible circumstances in which he found himself. As he nodded in the affirmative, I turned in my Bible to Romans, the tenth chapter and the ninth verse, and had him read it to me: "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth Jesus as Lord, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

"Jim, you possibly know that the Bible records that all have sinned, and that the wages of sin is death. It also records that God sent His Son from Heaven's glory to live as a man—the only perfect man who ever lived—and later to be crucified on a cross as God's sin-offering for the sins of the world. It records that Jesus Christ tasted death for every man.

"That includes you, Jim, and it means He died in your place, as your substitute—He died the death that you deserved to die. That's why the Bible calls Him 'Saviour.' In present-day English we would call Him our 'Rescuer.' And through the Rescuer from sin and its punishment, Jesus Christ, God offers forgiveness and everlasting life to all who will acknowledge Christ as their Saviour and surrender to Him as their Lord.

"Jim, do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that He died for your sins, and that God raised Him from the dead?"

"Yes, I believe that."

(To be continued in next week's issue)



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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

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SEP 12

**HE TURNS NOT AWAY
FROM THEIR SMILES
NOR THEIR TEARS.
THE REV. L. E. BALLARD:
A FRIEND TO MAN. . . .**



A LETTER TO MR. BALLARD

Cover Photo by Ed Carlin

Dear Mr. Ballard:

Thank you. Thank you for your unselfish attitude, your devotion to the denomination, your unrelenting faith in our Lord, your untiring efforts for His cause. Thank you for being the fine Christian gentleman you are, a person whom I can respect and hold in high esteem.

Thank you for being humble, yet brave. Thank you for your modest manner which makes it possible for you to relate to the needs of all people. Thank you for playing no real favorites. Thank you for loving everybody, for giving more than your portion, for not expecting (not even desiring) any reward. Thank you for sharing the Word with me and others, and showing us, through your daily living, what Christianity is all about.

Thank you for what you have done for Cragmont Assembly, that hallowed place in the mountains where the voices of countless young people still echo praises to our Lord and lift the name of "Pa" Ballard to His favor. Thank you for your service to the Sunday school convention, the league, the pastorate, the Press, and so many other aspects of denominational work.

Thank you for giving heed to the cry of little children—those who had lost their sense of security and just needed a word of assurance from "Pa." Thank you for the pats on the back, the firm handshakes of confidence and encouragement, the smiles of greeting, the appreciative nod of your head at a job well done. Thank you for offering commendation when it did the most good.

Thank you for being human, for admitting to mistakes, and the diligence to make amends for any wrongs. Thank you for never making impossible demands. Thank you for the courtesy of saying, "If you don't mind" and "I appreciate it."

Thank you for the chats, the cheerful words that helped smooth out the day. Thank you for the little visits, the wise counsel, the nostalgia of the past which you shared with me and others.

Thank you for being a good father to your children, a fine husband to your dear wife, a proud yet respect-commanding grandfather to your grandchildren.

Thank you for being willing to take the back seat when so often you were more capable than those doing the driving. Thank you for being willing to step aside and give the place of leadership to others when you felt they might have a little more to offer. Thank you for your willingness to cooperate in every situation.

Thank you for using your ability to quell flaring tempers. Thank you for mediating potential dissensions and bringing about favorable resolutions. Thank you for your calming influence, your gentle nature, your compassionate heart.

Thank you for being that man who lives by the side of the road who is a friend to all people. Sam Walter Foss must had have such a one as you in mind when he penned my favorite lines:

I see from my house by the side of the road,
By the side of the highway of life,
The men who press with the ardor of hope,
The men who are faint with the strife.
But I turn not away from their smiles nor their tears—
Both parts of an infinite plan;
Let me live in my house by the side of the road
And be a friend to man.

Thank you, Mr. Ballard, for living that message. Thank you for being a faithful servant, a steward, a proclaimer of the faith. Henceforth, there is laid up for you a crown of righteousness. I expect to see you wear that crown someday; but knowing you, I am sure you will lay it at our Master's feet.

That's the kind of man you are, and I thank you. . . .

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD?'

A recently published book, written by Jeremy Rifkin and Ted Howard, reveal some startling acts.

VOULD IT SURPRISE YOU TO KNOW—

That the nation's top scientists predict that within five ears they will be able to produce genetic carbon copy clones of uman beings?

That scientists have already kept test-tube babies alive for ver six months and that the first laboratory-grown human will e born within the next ten years?

That human cells have been fused together with cells aken from mice, monkeys and plants to create new forms of ife never before seen in the history of the planet?

What was science fiction just a few short years ago is now science fact. The revolutionary developments of recombinant DNA and genetic engineering represent the ultimate future shock for civilization as we know it.

WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD?, a Dell/Delacorte release by Ted Howard and Jeremy Rifkin, documents the bizarre, behind-the-scene genetic experimentation being conducted at this very moment in hundreds of university, government and corporate laboratories. It is the story of a new technology that, in the words of one Nobel Prize winning biologist, ''faces our society with problems unprecedented not only in the history of science, but of life on the Earth.''

The publication date of WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD? is November 1st. It can be ordered now from the Dell representative in your area.

For your information, the following pages provide advance reviews from distinguished Americans, as well as a sampling of the startling and timely revelations contained in WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT. . .

Little known facts about the Biological Revolution

A Nobel Prize winning scientist, Linus Pauling, has suggested legislation requiring that every person in the country have their genotype tatooed on their forehead to prevent certain people from mating with others.

Dr. Elof Axel Carlson of UCLA believes that there may be enough DNA remaining in the King Tut mummy for scientists to clone an exact living copy of the ancient ruler.

One Nobel Prize winning scientist, Dr. Joshua Lederberg of Stanford, claims it will be possible to produce live carbon-copy clones of you in less than 10 years.

Corporations have the legal right to own and sell all new forms of life they create in their laboratories. General Electric already holds three new life-form patents.

Some companies, like Dow Chemical, are selecting people for certain jobs on the basis of their genotypes.

Leading scientists, including Nobel prize-winner Dr. Francis Crick of England and Dr. James Bonner of Cal Tech, are proposing that only people with certain ''superior'' genotypes be licensed to have babies.

General Electric has actually experimented with changing the human digestive tract so that people could eat and digest hay, like cows.

Genetic engineers are experimenting with transferring memory and intellect from one animal to another. Dr. David Krech, a University of California, Berkeley, psychologist, believes we'll soon have chemical controls for memory.

There are now 8 different laboratory methods to make a baby besides normal sexual mating between male and female.

Top genetic engineers like Dr. Joshua Lederberg of Stanford discuss doubling the human brain size in order to produce a new super species of human beings.

Dr. Kimball Atwood, biologist at the University of Illinois, says there is no reason why animals and plants couldn't be genetically crossed so that skin, like leaves, would perform photosynethesis.

A leading Washington State Scientist, Dr. E.S.E. Hafez, forsees women shopping supermarket-style for frozen embryos that would then be implanted in her or a surrogate mother's womb for gestation.

Dr. Kendall Pye, co-director of the Enzyme Technology Group at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, thinks that through DNA repair the average life span may be extended to up to several hundred years.

Dr. James Danielli, of SUNY at Buffalo, suggests that two human embryos from different parents can be fused together to form one baby with the genetic qualities of four different parents.

GENETIC ENGINEERING

PRO

''If a superior individual—and presumably, then, genotype—is identified, why not copy it directly, rather than suffer all the risks, including those of sex determination, involved in the disruptions of recombinantion (sexual procreation). Leave sexual reproduction for experimental purposes; when a suitable type is ascertained take care to maintain it by clonal propagation.''

DR. JOSHUA LEDERBERG,
Nobel Laureate, Stanford University

Turn the Page

"No new born infant should be declared human until it has passed certain tests regarding its genetic endowment and if it fails these tests it forfeits the right to live."

DR. FRANCIS CRICK,
Nobel Laureate, Great Britain

"If the greatest good of the greatest number (i.e. the social good) were served by it, it would be justifiable not only to specialize the capacities of people by cloning or by constructive genetic engineering, but also to bio-engineer or bio-design parahumans or 'modified men'—as chimeras (part animal) or cyborg-androids (part prosthetes). I would vote for cloning top-grade soldiers and scientists, or for supplying them through other genetic means, if they were needed to offset an elitist or tyrannical power plot by other cloners—a truly science-fiction situation, but imaginable."

DR. JOSEPH FLETCHER,
Professor of Medical Ethics,
University of Virginia School of Medicine.

CON

"The Atomic Age began with Hiroshima. After that, no one needed to be convinced that we had a problem. We are now entering the Genetic Age; I hope we do not need a similar demonstration."

DR. ROBERT R. SINSHEIMER,
Chairman, Biology Department,
California Institute of Technology

"When I was working with H. G. Wells on the film 'Things to Come' some 40 years ago, we had great difficulty designing the dresses for our future, but we never contemplated redesigning the people who would wear those dresses. Today, however, there are those who would like to do so. Do not think this is science fiction. The trouble with fantasy writers today is that they are inevitably overtaken by tomorrow's facts. The time scale of change has been recalibrated so that tomorrow is already here."

LORD RITCHIE-CALDER,
British scientist and author

"We should not ignore the possibility that gentic means of controlling human heredity will be put to massive uses of human degradation even outside the military context. Huxley's nightmarish society might be achieved by gentic surgery rather than by conditioning, and in an even more terrifying way since the process would be hereditary and irreversible."

DR. SALVADOR LURIA,
Nobel, Laureate,
Harvard University.

ADVANCE PRAISE FOR 'WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD?'

"WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD? builds until it reaches such a horrific and fascinating pitch, near its end, that it just nails you; you simply are staggered by what is going on in the area of what's called "genetic engineering'. The reader comes away armed with knowledge and at the same time shaking with outrage and fear—outrage at what genetic engineering really consists of, fear for our actual personal safety and that of our race and heirs."

PHILIP K. DICK,
science fiction author,
The Three Stigmata of Palmer Edlritch

"WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD? is a startling, readable, up-to-date account of recent biological breakthroughs. While I would not agree with all its conclusions, the dangers it exposes and the issues it raises are of shattering importance."

ALVIN TOFFLER,
author,
Future Shock

"WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD? raises crucial moral and ethical issues of vital importance to those who expect the human race, as we know it, to survive."

ROLLO MAY,
author,
Love and Will

"WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD? contains a massive amount of data on one of the most important issues to face our society in the last quarter of the Twentieth Century. The authors reveal the invasive nature of genetic engineering together with its probable impact. Should be read by everyone interested in life on our planet."

DR. LIEBE F. CAVALIERI,
Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

"This important book sounds a necessary alarm over the burgeoning, socially-myopic experimentation in genetic engineering. It shows just how far we have already traveled down the slippery technological path which began with manipulation of nature and ends in the manipulation of our own human bodies and minds."

DR. HAZEL HENDERSON,
author, science policy advisor
to the Office of Technology Assessment.

"WHO SHOULD PLAY GOD? is must reading for those who want to understand the roots of the present recombinant DNA controversy."

DR. JONATHAN BECKWITH,
Harvard Medical School

Note: It is time that Christians everywhere inform themselves and address the fearsome possibility that **man** may take godly matters into his hands—**The Editor.**

Conferences

To be held in two Churches simultaneously

September 15-17, 1978

BLACK JACK FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Pitt County

September 15, Friday Evening

7:30 P. M.—Opening of Conference, Local Pastor
The Work of Home Missions, the Rev. Taylor Hill
Offering
Message, the Rev. Joseph Ingram
Closing

September 16, Saturday Evening

7:30 P. M.—Opening Session, Local Pastor
The Work in Mexico, the Rev. Vance Link
Offering
Message, the Rev. Norman Ard

September 17, Sunday

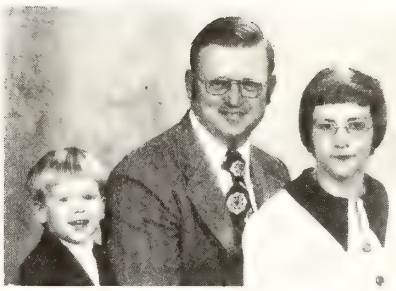
10:00 A. M.—Sunday School Missions Hour
1. Combined 4th—8th Grades: the Philippines, Mrs. Linda Baker
2. Combined 9th—12th Grades: Mexico, the Rev. Vance Link
3. Combined Adults: India, the Rev. Fred Baker

11:00 A. M.—Morning Worship, the Rev. Fred Baker
7:00 P. M.—Opening Session, Local Pastor
Offering
Message, the Rev. Vance Link
Totaling of Faith Promises

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Greenville, North Carolina

September 15, Friday Evening

7:30 P. M.—Focus: India
Speaker, the Rev. Norman Ard



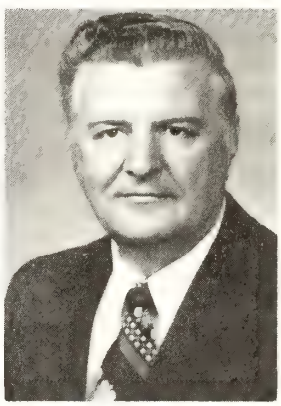
Fred Baker Family



Vance Link



Norman Ard



Joseph Ingram

September 16, Saturday Evening

7:30 P. M.—Focus: the Philippines
Speaker, the Rev. Fred Baker

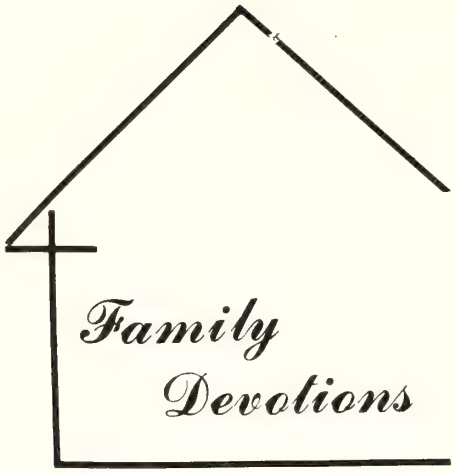
September 17, Sunday

11:00 A. M.—Focus: Mexico
Speaker, the Rev. Vance Link
7:00 P. M.—Focus: Overall Mission Views and Projections
Speaker, the Rev. Joseph Ingram

Sponsored by:

North Carolina Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board

PLEASE BRING YOUR OFFERINGS!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—Joshua 2:11

HIGHER ORDERS

In Formosa, an aboriginal woman was wonderfully saved. She studied the Bible a little while, then she went back up in the hills to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus. The Japanese police said: "You cannot preach. If you preach you will be thrown into prison." But she said, "I have higher orders." They said, "Never mind; if we catch you, you will be thrown into prison." She said, "You won't catch me." She traveled by night up into those native, aboriginal wild villages. Then the evening of the second night she sent her runners to gather in the people, arriving back in her village at one o'clock in the morning, and from one to three they studied the Word of God by tallow candlelight. Then at three o'clock while it was yet dark they would go back so that when day dawned and the Japanese police checked, everybody would be doing his work in the field. As a result, when missionary Jim Dickson returned to Formosa, he found several thousand aboriginal people had turned to Christ, and the work has been carried through, and today over 150,000 of those people have turned to Jesus Christ—one of the mightiest harvests of this generation.

PRAYER THOUGHT

According to the Bible such people as Paul were put in prison for preaching the gospel. How many do we hear of today for preaching the Word of God are put in prison? Jesus said for us to go into all the world and preach the gospel.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 32:17

HE SAID HE WOULD

At a certain church a boy of ten years of age was examined for membership. After he had spoken of his sense of guilt, came the question, "What did you do when you felt yourself so great a sinner?" and the eyes of the boy brightened as he answered, "I just went to Jesus and told Him how sinful I was, and how sorry I was, and asked Him to forgive me." "And do you hope at times that Jesus heard you and forgave your sins?" "I don't only hope so, Sir, I know He did." The oldest of them raised his glasses and peered into the face of the little candidate, and said, "You say you 'know' that Jesus forgave your sin?" "Yes, sir," was the prompt answer. "You mean, my son, that you hope Jesus has pardoned your sins." "I hope He has, and I know it, too," said the boy, with a bright smile on his manly face. "How do you know it, my son?" Every eye was intent on the little respondent. "He said He would," said the boy, with a look of astonishment, as if amazed that anyone should doubt it.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said that He would forgive your sins, if you but only trust and believe in Him. What a great Saviour!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 1:5

I KNOW I HAVE

They had been talking with Dr. W. H. Griffith-Thomas night after night, endeavoring to win him, then a young doctor, for Christ. Nothing they said seemed to cut through the mental fog that blocked the way to a clear understanding of salvation. Finally realizing that the young man's difficulty was his own inability to "feel" saved, Mr. Poole took a coin, and handing it to Dr. Griffith-Thomas asked him to put it in his vest-pocket.

"Do you feel you've got it?" Mr. Poole asked.

"No," replied the young doctor, "I know I have."

"So," Mr. Poole rejoined, "we know we have Christ when we accept Him and believe His Word, without feeling it."

Dr. Griffith-Thomas testified later, "When I awoke the next morning my soul was overflowing with joy, and since then I have never doubted that it was on that Saturday night I was 'born again'—converted to God."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you remember the night or hour that you were converted to Christ? It should always stand out as an important moment in your life.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 6:11

THE VOICE THAT
STILLED THE CROWD

On the morning of Lincoln's death, a crowd of fifty thousand people gathered before the Exchange Building in New York. Feeling ran high, natural enough in the circumstances, and there was danger of its finding expression in violence. Then a well-built man in officer's uniform stepped into the front of the balcony, and in a voice that rang like a trumpet call, cried: "Fellow citizens! Clouds of darkness are round about Him. His pavilion is dark waters, and thick clouds of the skies. Justice and judgment are the establishment of His throne. Mercy and truth go before His face. Fellow citizens! God reigns! And the Government at Washington still lives!" Instantly the tumult was stilled, as the people grasped the import of those sublime words. The speaker was General James A. Garfield, himself to become a martyr-president sixteen years later.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God always reigns for His people. Let all people realize that He reigns on high!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—1 John 3:19

AN ARAB PROVERB

1. He that knows not and knows not
   that he knows not;
   He is a fool—shun him!

2. He that knows not and knows that he knows not;
He is simple—teach him!

3. He that knows and knows not that he knows;
He is asleep—wake him!

4. He that knows and knows that he knows;
He is a wise man—follow Him!

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we do something that is wrong, we should ask God to forgive us. By doing so, we will know that what we have done is wrong and that God has forgiven.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 10:22

FOOLING THOSE WHO WERE ROBBED

An Illinois thief stole five hundred dollars worth of shoes, the entire stock of a store, and in addition played a trick on the dealer by leaving all the empty boxes, putting them back just where they belonged. One after another the customers arrived the next day, and the dealer pulled out box after box, only to find that each was empty. That was a unique theft, but something much like it takes place all the time in the spiritual world. For there are many thieves of faith, writers, and speakers who make it their business to destroy belief in God, in Christ, in the church, in religion. But they always leave the boxes. They always leave the shell of what they have taken, in order to fool people into thinking that they have taken nothing at all. But pull out the boxes, try to get any comfort and strength out of what they have left, and you will see that the theft has been complete.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of us are like the thief, when it comes to accepting and explaining the gospel of Christ to others?

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—John 1:12

STARTLING JUDGMENT!

An unbeliever got up on one of the heights of the Catskill Mountains, and in the presence of some atheistic companions defied the God of Heaven to show Himself in battle. He swung his sword to and fro, and challenged the Almighty to meet him in single combat. The Almighty paid no attention to him, of course, but He just commissioned a little gnat, so small that it could scarcely be seen by a microscope, to lodge in his windpipe and choke him to death.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God causes things to happen to us in strange ways. It doesn't take something large in size to do a lot of damage, because God controls the universe.

Devotions used by permission, Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations, Eerdmans Press.

CRAGMONT

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN AT CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY



Construction Begun

"Therefore now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant (s), that it may continue forever before thee . . . and with thy blessing let the house of thy servant(s) be blessed for ever" (2 Samuel 7:29).

Hallelujah! Yes, it has finally happened. Cragmont has started construction on its new Main Building. After a few months delay because of some legal matters which have been resolved, the Board of Directors signed a contract on Monday, July 31, with C. Cliff Meyer, contractor of Black Mountain, North Carolina. The building is to be completed sometime during the first of May, 1979, with the cost not to exceed $400,000. The contractor began construction on August 3 and now has the foundations poured and most of the blocks of the basement wall in place. We will try to keep you informed as the building program progresses from month to month.

On Friday of the Woman's Conference at Cragmont, a groundbreaking ceremony was held. Those in attendance included many of the State Woman's Auxiliary officers and 140 women attending the Woman's Conference. Second Samuel 7:25-29 was read and prayer was offered by Mrs. Dola Dudley, director of the Woman's Conference. During the ceremony many of the women displayed their emotions with memories of the old building and with joy of the new building becoming a reality.



Groundbreaking Ceremony

During the next nine months, Cragmont will need your support more than ever before. At this time we have only $75,000 on hand, a definite $200,000 borrowed, and an application being processed for $75,000. We will still need another $50,000 over the next nine months to pay for the building when it is completed. So we urge each church, Sunday school, league, auxiliary, youth group, and individual to help us meet these financial needs during the next few months. One of the ways you may wish to help us is to purchase a square foot of the new Main Building. The contractor's estimated price for each square foot is $25. A certificate will be awarded as a token of our appreciation for each purchase. All money earmarked for the building fund should be sent to: Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer, Route 1, Sims, North Carolina 27880.

Thank you for your past, present, and future support. Please make Cragmont a special object of your prayers during the building program.

In His service,
Rev. Doug Skinner,
Manager and Promotion Secretary

NEWS & NOTES

Reception at Little Rock Church

The social committee of Little Rock Original Free Will Baptist Church hosted a reception Sunday evening, September 3, 7-8 p. m. in heritage hall at the church. The reception was given in honor and appreciation to Mrs. Kathleen Beamon, outgoing chancel choir director and to welcome Mr. Randy Barham, incoming chancel choir director who officially began his services Sunday morning, September 3.



De W. Eakes and Mrs. Kathleen Beamon

The above picture shows the pastor, the Rev. De W. Eakes presenting a certificate of recognition and appreciation to Mrs. Kathleen Beamon. She is wearing a corsage provided by the social committee. Shortly after coming to Little Rock church, Mrs. Beamon was elected chancel choir director in a quarterly business meeting. Mrs. Beamon served ably, loyally and faithfully in the position for 17 years, praising God in song and helping the choir to improve their talents. This degree of loyalty and commitment to a task assigned is highly commendable and is deeply appreciated by the choir and members of Little Rock church.



Randy Barham and De W. Eakes

The above picture shows the pastor presenting a copy of the contractual agreement to Mr. Randy Barham, a newly hired chancel choir and music director. Mr. Barham is a senior at Atlantic Christian College and a native of Rolesville, North Carolina. The initial response of choir and congregation alike has been very positive to Mr. Barham's leadership of our music program. We feel very fortunate to have Mr. Barham to work with us in the further development of our music program.

Sarecta Church Announces Homecoming

The Sarecta Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Sarecta, will observe its annual homecoming, Sunday, September 17. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. followed by the worship service at 11. Lunch will be served at noon.

There will be a singspiration in the afternoon consisting of "The Good News Singer's," Mapel Hill, North Carolina, and other church groups and choirs.

The pastor, the Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, and the members invite all former members, pastors, and friends to come and fellowship with them.

Revival at Calvary Church September 18-22

Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will hold its fall revival September 18-22. The Rev. Kenneth Forehand, pastor of the Unity Free Will Baptist Church, Durham, will be the guest speaker assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Dewey C. Boling. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. There will be special singing each night. There will be a social hour Friday night after the services. Everyone is invited to attend.

First Church, Vanceboro Holds Homecoming and Fall Revival

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Vanceboro will observe its annual homecoming on September 17. The church will also hold a fall revival beginning Monday night, September 18 at 7:30 p. m., through Saturday, September 23. There will be special singing each night, and the evening messages will be by the Rev. Bobby Chandler. Everyone is invited to come and join in these services.

Homecoming at Riverside Church

Riverside Free Will Baptist Church, near Princeton, will observe its annual homecoming Sunday, September 17. The Rev. C. M. Coats, a former pastor, will bring the homecoming message. Lunch will be served at noon. There will be a singspiration in the afternoon. The pastor, the Rev. Luby Tyner, and members of the church invite all former members, pastors, and friends to come and fellowship with them.

Revival at Sneads Ferry Church

Sneads Ferry Free Will Baptist Church, Onslow County, announces its fall revival for September 18-22. Services will begin each evening at 7:30.

The evangelist will be the pastor, the Rev. O. B. Taylor. The pastor and the congregation invite everyone to attend.

Jackson Heights Church Announces Revival



Floyd Cherry

The Jackson Heights Free Will Baptist Church, 2916 Camellia Street, Kinston, announces revival services for September 18 through 22 starting at 7:30 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Floyd Cherry of Pine Level. The pastor of the church is the Rev. David Thick. There will be special singing each night. A nursery will be provided. Everyone is cordially invited.

Daly's Chapel Church Announces Homecoming

Daly's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange, is holding its annual homecoming on Sunday, September 24. A former pastor, the Rev. J. Walter Stanley, will bring the message at 11 a. m., immediately following Sunday school at 10 a. m.

There will be a picnic dinner on the church grounds following the worship service. In the advent of rain alternate plans will be made. After dinner a period of singing and fellowship will be held.

The members join their pastor, the Rev. Foy Futrell, in extending a warm welcome to all former members, pastors, and a special invitation to all their Christian friends.

Ormondsville Revival September 18-22

The Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church, near Ayden, will have revival services beginning September 18-22. The Rev. Ray Williamson will be the guest evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. There will be special singing each night. The pastor is the Rev. Jack Mayo. Everyone is invited.

Smith's New Home Church Announces Homecoming and Revival

Smith's New Home Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Deep Run, will observe its annual homecoming Sunday, September 24. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. followed by worship service at 11. A former pastor, the Rev. Andrew Hill, will be bringing the morning message. Lunch will be served at noon.

There will be singing in the afternoon. The pastor, the Rev. Bobby Harrell, and the members invite all former members, pastors, and friends to come and fellowship with them.

Beginning on Monday, September 25 through 29 at 7:30 each evening, the church will be having its fall revival. The Rev. Bruce Dudley will be the guest evangelist. There will be special singing each evening. Everyone is invited to attend.

Homecoming and Memorial Day Stancil's Chapel Church

The Stancil's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly, will observe its annual homecoming and memorial day services on Sunday, September 27. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a. m., followed with the message by the pastor, the Rev. J. B. Godwin, at 11. A picnic lunch will be served on the church grounds at noon. A singspiration will be held in the afternoon.

The pastor and the church membership invite all friends, relatives, and former members to be there on this day.

Revival at Little Rock Church, September 18-22

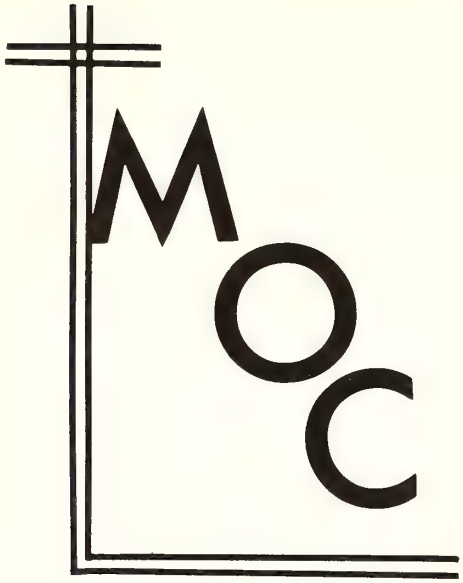


Marvin Waters

Services of revival for Little Rock Original Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, are scheduled for September 18-22 at 7:30 each evening. Nursery will be provided for small children each evening. The public is invited to attend this series of special worship services.

The speaker is the Rev. Marvin Waters, pastor of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, North Carolina. He was graduated from Mount Olive College with the A.S. degree; from Atlantic Christian College with the B.S. degree; and from East Carolina University with the Master of Arts in Education in Guidance and Counseling. He was a 1977 recipient of the Jaycees Outstanding Young Men of America Award. Marvin is married to the former Peggy Ann Stocks of Washington, North Carolina. He serves as clerk of the Albemarle Union Meeting of Original Free Will Baptists and assistant clerk of the Albemarle Conference. He is vice-president of the Beautort County Chaplain's Association.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?



PLANNING MEETINGS FOR COLLEGE DINNERS SET

The planning meetings for the annual college dinners have been set in the following counties:

Beaufort County—Monday, September 18 at 7:30 p. m. at Free Union church.

Duplin County—Monday, September 18 at 7:30 p. m. at Cabin church near Beulaville.

Edgecombe-Halifax Counties—Monday, September 25 at 7:30 p. m. at First Free Will Baptist church in Tarboro.

Jones County—Sunday, September 24 at 3 p. m. at Friendship church near Trenton.

Onslow-New Hanover Counties—Friday, September 15 at 7:30 p.m. at Folkstone church.

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties—Thursday, September 21, at 7:30 p. m. at Oak Grove church near Dunn.

Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, and Pasquotank Counties—Tuesday, September 26, at 7:30 p. m. at Mount Tabor church in Creswell.

Wilson County—Tuesday, September 19 at 8 p. m. at Daniels Chapel church near Wilson.

Every church represented at the planning meetings will receive a copy of **Let God Manage Your Money** by Gordon McLean.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College, will deliver the homecoming message at Dublin Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Aurora on Sunday, September 17.

FINANCIAL AID DIRECTOR NAMED AT MOC

Mrs. Barbara P. Darden of Eureka has been named Director of Financial Aid at Mount Olive College, effective September 5.

As a former employee of Kemp Industries, Mrs. Darden served as executive secretary and administrative assistant for a total of 25 years. During the 1972-73 sessions of the North Carolina General Assembly she served as legislative secretary for Representative W. P. Kemp Jr.

At Mount Olive College, Mrs. Darden will administer a program in excess of $500,000 in academic scholarships, grants, loans, work-study and other forms of aid designed to assist students in financing their educations.

College President, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, commented, "We at Mount Olive College are pleased and feel fortunate to obtain the services of Mrs. Darden who has had broad and significant experience in business and in working with people."

Mrs. Darden is a 1961 graduate of ICS in Scranton, Pennsylvania, with a diploma in personnel-labor relations. She further attended various North Carolina State College Extension Service courses and workshops in business management.

As a charter member of the Goldsboro Chapter of the American Business Women's Association, she was named Woman of the Year in 1969.

She is married to Richard A. Darden, president of Superior Agriculture Products in Wilson. They have two children.

MRS. RILEY AT MARSH SWAMP

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, associate director of admissions at Mount Olive College, will participate in youth choir services to be held at Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Wilson on Sunday, September 17.

Mrs. Riley will teach Sunday school, present a message in song, and speak on Mount Olive College.

Coming Events . . .

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 16—Eastern District Youth Fellowship Convention, 10 a. m., Arapahoe Free Will Baptist Church, Arapahoe

September 21—Eastern Conference District WA Conference

September 30—Youth Convention, King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, 7:30 p. m.

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 3—Ordaining Council of Central Conference will meet 10 a. m. at the Press

October 4—Albemarle Conference, Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown

October 12—Western Conference, Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson

October 12—Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth

(Continued on Page 15)

FROM ASHES TO FLAMES

This is a true story, but the names of the family have been changed.

(Continued from Last Week)

"So far, so good. This fulfills one half of the requirements that God demands of those who would receive His forgiveness and everlasting life.

"Will you then confess Jesus Christ to be the Lord of your life? That means will you openly declare that you are no longer the boss of your life, but that Jesus Christ is? It means that you will ask Him to come into your heart and life, and that you will give Him free rein to run your life from here on out, in any way He sees fit."

"Yes, I will," Jim stated.

"Let's kneel and tell it to Him."

We knelt there together, and the man at my side, in simple, humble prayer, told the God of the universe that he believed in Him; that he was sick of running his own life and that he would take His Son, Jesus Christ, as his Saviour and as the Lord and Ruler of his life, and would He please enter into his heart and make whatever changes were necessary. Would He fix it also so that the little family could stay together, and that two small girls might have both a mother and a daddy?

Please don't ask me to explain how miracles happen, but I knew that one had taken place, as a broken-hearted father committed his life to God and then prayed for his wife and daughters. We arose from our knees, and I could read in Jim's face that the leaden lump had disappeared from his breast and that there burned a bright new hope within him. As I drove away from the house, I saw silhouetted in the doorway the frame of a man who had had a meeting with the One Who said, "All power is given unto me." Little did I realize that the silhouette in the doorway was to be indelibly imprinted on my mind along with two other similar scenes which were yet to come.

The next day I attended the Gideon Convention. The last item on the agenda for that Friday night was a prayer meeting at 10 o'clock. Just as I was going to the prayer room Jim came rushing in. Never will I forget the frantic expression on his face as he blurted out, "It's now or never! It's my wife!"

I said, "Let's pray."

"No! You come along with me!"

On the way home Jim said that he and Alice had quarreled violently. As we apparoached the house it was agreed that he should stay in the car while I went in to endeavor to talk to his wife. As I stepped up on the porch the door flew open and I was confronted by a woman in whose eyes blazed unrestrained fury.

"Where is my husband!"

"Out in the car," I stammered. Then quickly, as in self defense, I stated, "I'm a friend of Harry Myers. He asked me to call on you and Jim."

"Come in," she said, ever so curtly.

The tension eased, and Alice began to tell me her side of the story. Sitting before me was an attractive, well-dressed woman, who, like Jim, was probably in her early thirties. For a long time she talked, while I listened and prayed silently, "Lord, what do I do now?"

It seemed that there was nothing particularly wrong with Jim—according to her—except that he had no glamour. He was just a "plugger" and more like a brother to her than a husband.

"Hasn't he taken good care of you and your two little girls?" I asked.

"Yes, but a husband should be more than that! We just weren't meant for each other. We've had nothing but trouble!" And she just knew there was no solution for their marriage.

I then told her the story of what happened once in Seattle when a Christian psychiatrist took me to see one of his women patients. That lady was also in dire distress and trouble, but after being told that God desires to come in and take control of our lives and straighten them out, she knelt in prayer with us, at which time a great transformation took place in that woman's life.

Alice listened as I told of the changed life that resulted for that woman, and then she asked me, "Is it necessary to pray in the presence of other people? I could never do that."

I explained that a person could certainly pray alone, but that it sometimes helps to pray with someone else.

As we continued our conversation, Alice said that she had acquired a friendship with another man who was, to her, very uplifting. She hastened to add that there was really nothing wrong with their relationship. He was a professional man, educated, refined and very interesting. Without commenting on this "friendship" I called her attention to the husband-wife relationship as set forth in the Bible in I Corinthians, the seventh chapter.

"Oh! I couldn't go for that," was her quick rejoinder.

"Whether you can go for it or not, that is God's all-wise provision for a man and a woman to live this life together. It is the very foundation of true civilization, and gives human beings the unspeakable privilege and blessing of living together as happy families."

(To be continued in next week's issue)

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For September 24

EXPRESSIONS OF THE DISCIPLINED LIFE

Lesson Text: 1 Thessalonians 1:2-7
Memory Verse: 2 Peter 1:5, 6

I. INTRODUCTION

Paul came to Thessalonica in the midst of his second missionary journey. In three weeks of earnest preaching he won large numbers of people to Christ. Jealous unbelievers then stirred up such a riot that Paul and his companion, Silas, thought it best to leave the city, hoping to avert further violence (Acts 17:1-10).

How much can you learn in three weeks? Paul did not have much longer than that in Thessalonica, and he was teaching people who had never heard of Jesus or His church. Certainly they were not very well prepared to meet all the problems of church management, Christian teaching, and evangelism.

Can you imagine the questions that nagged at Paul's mind as he taught in Berea and Athens? Would those new Christians in Thessalonica forget all he had taught them? Would they be deceived by the argument that one crucified in Judea could not possibly be the glorious Messiah? Would the heavy pressure of persecution break their will?

Anxiety tore at Paul till he could stand it no longer. He sent Timothy to see what was happening in Thessalonica and to encourage the Christians there (1 Thessalonians 3:1-3).

Timothy's visit was a short one. He hurried to Paul in Corinth with good news. The Thessalonian Christians were being persecuted, but they were standing firm. In his joy Paul cried, "Now we live!" (1 Thessalonians 3:6-8).

Quickly Paul wrote his first letter to the Thessalonians to acknowledge that report and to give praise along with teaching.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Point out that this is the last of the four lessons dealing with "Disciplined Christian Living."

B. Show that one great motivation for the Christian life is gratitude to God for His mercies. Paul was grateful to God for the Thessalonians.

C. Get your class to think about the lesson by asking them to name some of the ways that a disciplined life expresses itself. The lesson does not exhaust the subject, and they will be able to think of many others.

D. The Thessalonian Christians, because of their disciplined lives, became "ensamples" to others. Ask your class if their lives are good examples for others to follow.

E. Be sure to show that discipline and power for service come from the prompting of the Holy Spirit (1 Thessalonians 1:5).

F. This lesson brings to a close the study entitled, "Disciplined Christian Living." The first lesson dealt with the "Consequences of Undisciplined Living"; the second lesson dealt with "Motivation for the Disciplined Life"; the third lesson in the series was concerned with "Resources for the Disciplined Life"; this lesson is entitled, "Expressions of the Disciplined Life."

G. It is possible for unbelievers to discipline their lives for ulterior motives; many people have sacrificed and directed their lives to attain worldly success. The kind of discipline that we have been concerned about in this series is sacrificing and denying self so that we may do exactly the Lord's will for our lives. As we study this lesson remember that disciplining one's life for any reason other than to do the will of God will not produce the results that we will be talking about. The things we are going to mention today are expressions of the life that sacrifices and denies itself to do the will of God.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In the first three lessons in this unit, "Disciplined Christian Living," we have principally been concerned with defining the term and exploring how it concerns us as individuals. We have also examined the resources of the disciplined life—where and how we may find God's ways of experiencing personal discipline. We have seen some of the ways that personal discipline enables us to be a blessing to others, but we need a more detailed examination of how our discipline is expressed in blessing others.

B. That is the purpose of this lesson. We shall see that we may witness for the Lord by caring for others and being thankful for what they mean to us. We shall also see how we can best manifest brotherly love one for another through self-control.

C. Perhaps better than any other person in the New Testament, Paul could show the most sincere and convincing expressions of the disciplined life. When we realize what he was before his conversion, how his entire life was affected by the gospel, and how the Holy Spirit helped him find the disciplined life, we can appreciate his example. We seldom think of Jesus as having to discipline His life, but, as a human being, He did have to do so. Perhaps the greatest example of that discipline is His experience in the Garden of Gethsemane. There He finally was able to say, "Nevertheless, not my will but Thine be

done.''

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

All the Keys—Dr. F. B. Meyer, pastor of Christ church, London, was a great preacher and exerted an enormous influence on his generation. He was especially known for the quality of his personal, spiritual dedication. Many times he spoke at the Dwight L. Moody conferences at Northfield. In his autobiography, he tells of an unusual experience. Seated alone in his study one night, in deep meditation, he was overwhelmed by the feeling that his ministry was lacking in fruitfulness and spirtual power.

Suddenly, he was not alone. Jesus seemed to be standing there with him and said, ''Let me have all the keys to your life.'' It was so real that Dr. Meyer pulled his key ring from his pocket and handed it over. Jesus examined the keys and asked, ''Are these all?''

Meyer said, ''Yes,'' But there was one room in his life that was not committed and one key that was missing; therefore the minister confessed, ''All but one key to a little room.''

With that, Jesus handed them back and said, ''If you will not trust me with all the keys, I cannot accept any.'' Then He turned to leave.

Meyer rose to his feet and said, ''Don't leave; you can have all the keys.'' There was a transformation in Meyer's life and ministry that everyone recognized. If Christ is not worthy to be Lord of all, He is not worthy to be Lord of any.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

IN MEMORY OF WALTER BUCK

On July 7, 1978, God called our beloved brother, Walter Buck, home to be with Him. It seems that we are left behind with some wonderful memories which I would like to share with you. Brother Walter was one member of the church who lived his faith in God every day—so that everyone knew where he stood. He was never too busy to stop and help someone who needed his assistance—physically—or spiritually. He was faithful in his service to God through his church, and was found among the faithful ones on each occasion when there was a service. He always volunteered to do the jobs that no one else would do. He was a Christian—24 hours of every day—not just on Sunday.

He was born April 5, 1912, in Jones County. He lived most of his life in Wayne County. On September 3, 1932, he married Beulah, his wife. It was not long after this marriage—one year—that they both joined the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro where he served God and his fellowmen until God called him home. He served as deacon for many, many years, and was still serving in this capacity when He took his departure to Heaven. He helped fill in as a Sunday school teacher on many occasions when He was needed. He served as church usher for many years, and was a ''one man official welcoming committee'' at our church where he served God in this unusual way—shaking hands with everyone who attended every service. We sure miss this great contact with this spirit-filled man—but we believe that He is at the door of Heaven—shaking hands with all who enter the gates. Our loss is Heaven's gain.

Brother Walter was very active in the men's brotherhood of our church. He also served as a member of the men's choir at the church. For many years, He led cottage prayer meetings in homes, and was used of God in a great way to bring the unsaved into a saving knowledge of our wonderful Lord.

One of the things Brother Walter delighted in was going by and picking up the elderly who were unable to drive, and widows who were afraid to be out too late by themselves. This was an extra service that he rendered, in this pick up and delivery of these precious people back to their homes—safe and sound—after attending church.

When there were any meetings concerning the denomination, Brother Walter was the first to say—''I'll go.'' He made the annual trip with our church family to the orphanage in Middlesex. He also attended union meetings, state meetings, and Sunday school meetings. One highlight of his life was when he attended the Woman's Auxiliary State meeting at Mount Olive College, where the ladies dressed in the attire of 50 years ago. Yes, Brother Walter would climb on that bus, and offer his service to God by attending.

Another of the great things that made Brother Walter famous with everyone was the way he cared about you, and visited you, especially when you were sick, and made you feel that you were ''the most important person'' in the whole wide world. Declining health was his portion for the last 10 years of his life, because of a heart problem, but he did not dwell on this. He chose to bury his thoughts in the lives of other persons, as he became involved in their needs.

Down through the years Brother Walter served on every committee in the church, and always did more than his share of the work, without complaining.

God blessed his home with 4 precious sons—Kenneth, Bobby, David, and Billy, who have turned out to be very fine, outstanding Christian men. It seemed to us that Brother Walter must have known that his time on earth was short for he had prepared a final farewell gift for each of his sons—4 Bibles. Each was different, and each chose the Bible that he wanted. What a great gift to leave your children—a never-dying faith in God—and His Word—to help guide their future life.

I cannot begin to tell all of the lasting spiritual impressions this humble man left on my life. I loved and respected him, and I guess that part of him will always be with me. The influence he left behind him is immeasurable.

Yes we suffered a physical loss when God reached down in His divine love and took our Brother to be with him, but we know that one day we shall see Him again—at the gates of Heaven as He welcomes us into this great city.

by Hazel Casey
1700 South Slocumb Street
Goldsboro, North Carolina



story corner

SPIES SENT TO CANAAN

WE have seen how the first house of God was made. It seems strange to us because our churches are built of stone, wood, or brick. Most of this church was made of cloth. The only wood used was in the frames. All of the furniture was made with big rings so that it could be carried on poles.

Did you wonder that there were no chairs or pews? The Hebrews either stood or sat on the ground during their worship services.

The Hebrews still were a long way from the land of Canaan, which was to be their home. They lived in tents because they could be packed and carried with them. They had no furniture, for it was too much to carry. Most of them had walked all the way from Egypt. All who were strong enough carried food, clothing, tents, bedding, cooking utensils, and other things which were absolutely necessary. There were few animals which could be ridden. These were used by the very old or sick.

Aaron and his sons were the priests, and only the priests were supposed to carry the parts of the tabernacle. It was clear that this was impossible. But God solved the problem.

He told Moses to call all the men of his family, the tribe of Levi, between thirty and fifty years of age. These men were to be anointed or dedicated as priests to help Aaron.

After the tabernacle was built, the cloud, which had led the Hebrews all the way from Egypt, hovered over the tabernacle.

One morning when the camp awoke they saw the cloud had moved. This was a sign that God was ready for them to move on toward Canaan.

The people began to break up the camp. Each family took down their tent and packed away their belongings.

Aaron, Moses, and the other priests began to take down the tabernacle. The curtain walls were unhooked from the frames and folded. The huge tarpaulin which covered the tabernacle was taken off and folded. The beautiful curtain which divided the tabernacle was wrapped around the ark. Then a waterproof covering of animal skins was tied around this. The gold rings were all that could be seen.

The bread table was carefully wrapped with the bread still on it. This was also covered with skins.

The incense lamps, oil jars, candlesticks, and other dishes were wrapped in skins and hung on a long pole which would be carried on the shoulders of the priests. The gold altar was covered as the others had been.

It would have been quite a sight to watch the Hebrews as they started on their way. Some were carrying the folded curtains; others carried the silver bronze bases; two men carried the pole from which hung the dish and candlestick. Two men carried the poles which ran through the rings of the ark. Two more carried the bread table in the same way. Two more carried the gold altar. It took at least four men to carry the large altar and two to four to carry the water laver.

One man carried the jar of holy oil. Another carried a pan of fire. Remember that the fire was never allowed to go out. It was carried along as any other part of the tabernacle.

After all these people went by, the rest of the Hebrews joined the caravan with their packs and the flocks and herds of animals.

This seems to be a hard way to travel. But the Hebrews did not mind. They were far from slavery and on their way to a land which was supposed to be very good. One day the walking would be over. They could settle down, raise crops, build homes, and live a happy and peaceful life.

The thought of this kept the journey from seeming so hard.

There were times when they complained, of course, but generally the spirit of the people was kept up.

They did not travel every day. They watched the cloud. When it settled over the ark, they made camp and stayed until the cloud moved.

One day God told Moses, "You are now near to the land I have promised your people. Send one man from each tribe into Canaan to look it over. Let them come back and tell you what they find."

So Moses chose one man from each tribe or family to go into Canaan. He said to them, "Go over the mountain into the land of Canaan. See what kind of land it is. See what kind of people live there. Find out what cities are there. Come back and tell us all you see in the land."

The twelve men went into Canaan. They traveled all over the land. After forty days they came back to camp. They brought back fruit they had picked in

Canaan as proof of the story they had to tell.

"The land is wonderful. You can see that the largest fruit in the world must grow there. The land is good for grazing our animals. But the people are strong. The cities all have great walls around them."

One man, Caleb, said, "Let us go in. We can take the land."

But the others were not eager to try. They said, "We cannot fight these people! They are giants! We are as grasshoppers to them."

The Hebrew people were very disappointed. They cried because of it. Some said, "Why did Moses bring us all the way from Egypt just to be killed by giants? Why could we not die in Egypt or starve in the desert? It would have been better than getting to our promised land and being killed by giants!"

Some others said, "Let us get another leader and go back to Egypt. It is better to be a live slave than a dead free man!"

Joshua and Caleb stood up before the people when they saw how defeated they seemed. They said, "The land of Canaan is good. It is a better land than we have ever seen. We can take it. God said that He would cause the armies to fall before us. He would not let us endure the long, hard journey just to be killed trying to win a land He promised to us. Have faith in God. If He is with us we cannot lose!"

But the people were so worked up that they would not listen to Caleb and Joshua. They actually picked up rocks and were going to stone them when the cloud of the Lord appeared before them.

God's voice was heard. He was speaking to Moses. "How long will these people irritate Me? How long will it be before they will believe Me? I will strike them! I will disown them! I will make a nation greater than they!"

Moses answered, "But, Lord, if You do this, the whole world will laugh and say that God was not able to take the people into the land as He promised; so He killed them all. Please remember You said that You were forgiving. Forgive them."—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

Children's Home

HOUSEPARENTS NEEDED AT THE HOME

The Children's Home is accepting applications for relief houseparents at the present time. The qualifications are as follows:

—A mature Christian woman or couple
—Physically and mentally healthy
—Able to work with children, the work will be full-time.

There will be one day off each week and two weekends off per month. Housing is available for a single woman. Couples would have to arrange for housing elsewhere.

This fall we expect to have openings for two houseparent couples. Couples with children are also accepted. An individual or couple interested in either of the positions should write or call the Executive Director right away at: Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc., P. O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557, (919) 235-2161.

Houseparenting is a labor of love. Abused, neglected and dependent children need someone to care. Commit this need to prayer. God might be able to use you.

Woman's Auxiliary

ATTENTION! EASTERN DISTRICT WA!

It has been asked that the names for a memorial service of the Eastern Conference District WA Convention should be mailed to Mrs. James Evans, Route 1, Seven Springs, North Carolina, 28578 or brought to the meeting. The WA Conference will be September 21.

NOTICE TO CONFERENCE CLERKS

As soon as possible after your Conference meets, please send us the minutes for the YEARBOOK.

Editorial Department

MISSIONS

NEW ARRIVAL

Wayne and Deborah King, missionaries to the Philippines, have a baby girl. Kelly Ann King was born on September 6 and weighed 6 lb. 6 oz. Mother and baby are doing fine. This message came from the Rev. Joe Ingram, director of Foreign Missions.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Bill Gaylord is available for part of full time service. He may be reached by calling (night) Belhaven 943-2869 or by writing the Rev. Bill Gaylord P. O. Box 117, Pantego, North Carolina 27860.

Coming Events . . .

(Continued from Page 10)

October 14—Cape Fear Sunday School Convention
October 14—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Horry County, South Carolina
October 18, 19—Eastern Conference, Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul
October 20-22—Fall Break, Mount Olive College
October 29—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention
October 29—Mount Olive Day in Local Churches

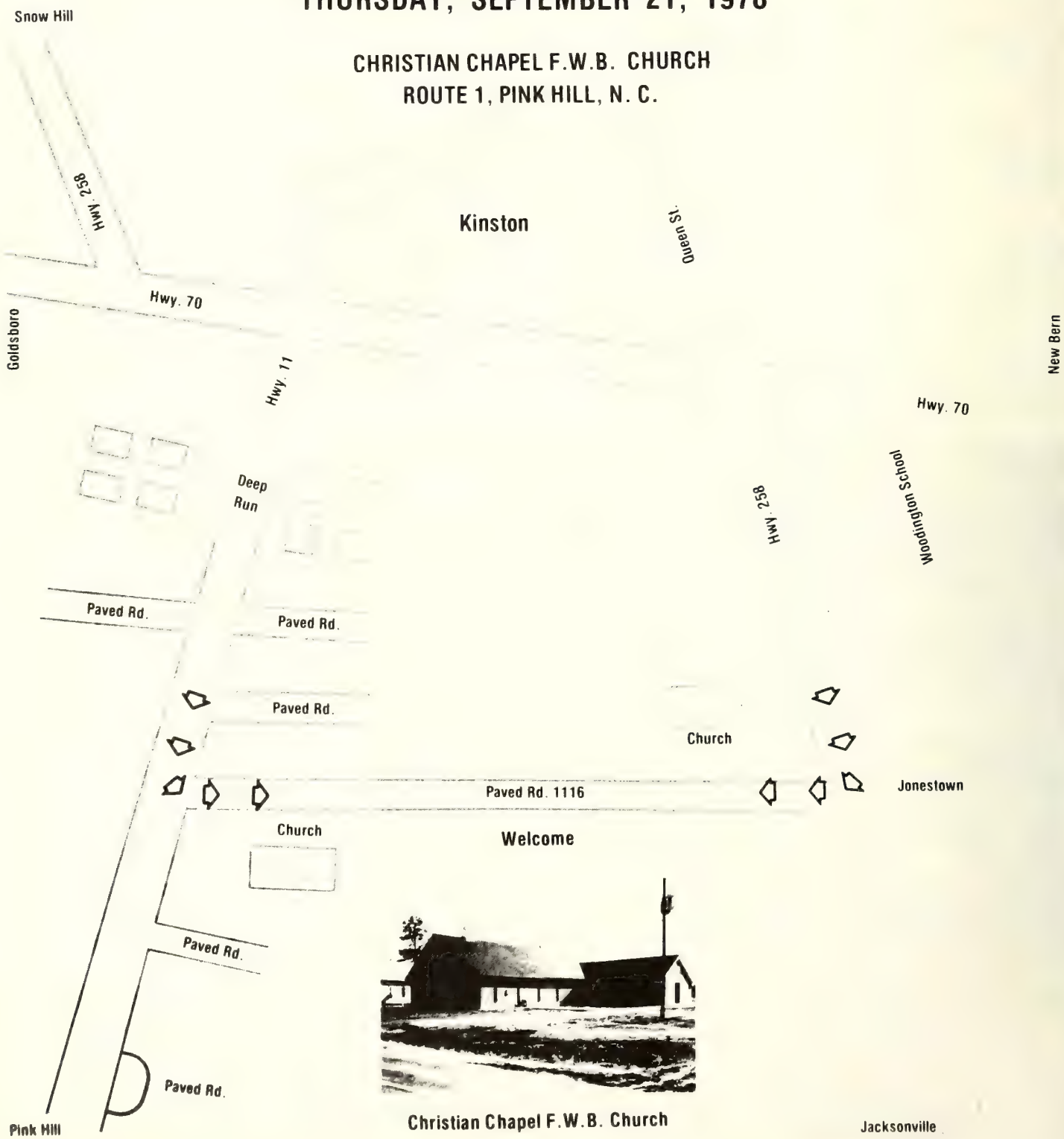
You and Christ together
Down the long, long trail,
Makes no difference whether
Road be hill or dale;
Fair or cloudy weather,
He will never fail;
You and Christ . . . Together
Down the long, long trail.

All Roads Lead To The

EASTERN DISTRICT WA CONVENTION

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1978

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL F.W.B. CHURCH
ROUTE 1, PINK HILL, N. C.



Christian Chapel F.W.B. Church

F85 7C

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

CHURCH OF THE MONTH

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Tarboro, North Carolina

O. B. Jones, Pastor

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Volume 93 Number 37

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Editorial . . .

CONFESS WRONGS AND BE BLESSED!

Every day, every one of us commits at least one wrong, intentionally or unintentionally. It is not enough to shrug off the inevitability and contend that we are "only human." Human we are, but no one should rest his case upon that fact alone and disdain to make recompense. Such an attitude can only lead to more mistakes, and, eventually, a dull, if not numb, conscience.

If our conscience doesn't sting once in a while, we should examine ourselves critically. If our conscience doesn't guide us, that should signal us that something is terribly wrong—so wrong, in fact, that we may need to be jarred back into reality. Only when we achieve reality do we actually admit that we need help. Only when we achieve reality do we admit to mistakes or to wrongs perpetrated against our brother.

While honest confession may not cleanse the soul, it is certainly *good* for it. A good rinsing of the heart brings relief. Sometimes that relief is projected through tears, sometimes through silent remorse. Regardless of how it is conveyed, there must be some manifestation of guilt and a change of attitude. If the change is of the *mind only*, it is doubtful that it will be long lasting. The mind is more easily changed than the heart, and mental decisions are seldom if ever weighted with true conviction.

It is conceivable that every wrong committed (whether against ourselves or our neighbor) is committed against *God*. We cannot sin without sinning against Him. Though that affirmation seems unnecessary for mature Christians, it appears that some of us have forgotten the fact. If only one person is affected by our indiscretion, we cannot excuse the indiscretion. Every person is important in God's sight, despite *our* personal evaluation of his worth.

In the Epistle of James (5:16), we are admonished to confess our faults to one another and to pray for one another. We are further taught that God is merciful, not willing that any should perish. He will gladly pardon, but He does not pardon the impenitent. All of us should be aware of the danger of continually transgressing, but some of us indicate by our actions and attitudes that we believe His patience is limitless. We must remember: Just as certainly as God is a God of love, He is also a God of wrath. We have all seen His love; few, if any, have experienced His wrath. Woe be unto those who are in danger of it.

The idea of confessing wrongs (especially those committed against our neighbor) is well illustrated in a story of two Christian men who had a confrontation. It seems that one had heard that the other had been talking about him and requested that he tell him his faults to his face. The accuser consented, with some pride at being able to set his brother aright.

Said the accused, "Before you commence telling me what you believe to be wrong with me, will you please bow down with me and pray over it, that my eyes may be opened—so that I may see my faults as you tell them to me?"

The outcome isn't hard to imagine. After the prayer, there seemed so little to complain about that the accuser admitted to serving the devil in issuing derogatory remarks about his friend. Said he, "I have need that you pray for me and forgive me for the wrong that I have done you." He was blessed.

Even so, all of us, in confessing our wrongs and making amends, will find blessings waiting. Make haste!

CHURCH OF THE MONTH

First Free Will Baptist Church Tarboro, North Carolina

O. B. Jones, Pastor

Information provided by J. M. LANGLEY

THE members of the Tarboro First Free Will Baptist Church cannot boast of a long history with a long list of former pastors; however, we are a group of dedicated Christians who are proud of the progress that is evident as one visits or passes by the property at 108-112 Hope Lodge Street in Tarboro, North Carolina.

This year, 1978, marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of our church that is the outgrowth of weekly cottage prayer services in the homes of some of the members that continue to worship with us. Thank God for the vision, perseverance, and co-operation of this small group of Free Will Baptists, local friends, and ministers of the Central Conference.

In was in the fall of 1952 that a few people contacted the Rev. J. B. Narron, pastor of the Kinston Free Will Baptist Church and the Rev. Rashie Kennedy, Chairman of the North Carolina Mission Board to seek help in organizing a mission in Tarboro, North Carolina. These contacts and future meetings resulted in the organization of a new Free Will Baptist Mission and began to meet in the old Jewish Synagogue on Main Street.

This was followed by another organizational meeting on September 6, 1953, when a new church was formed, and the Rev. Frank Davenport was called to serve as its pastor on a full-time basis.

It would be well to mention all the ministers and lay people who have contributed so much toward this new church but this is impossible; however, we must mention Dr. Burkette Raper, the Rev. R. P. Harris, the Rev. Charles Craddock, the Rev. Dan Beaman, Mr. Charlie Sparrow, and Mr. A. L. Summerlin.

The minutes of the church conference of October 1953 list 42 members, and the first Sunday school on the second Sunday in September 1953 recorded 45 present.

With prayer, faith, and determination, when Mr. A. L. Summerlin was Chairman of the Deacon Board, we negotiated loans, bought land and started building in March 1954 with one of our members, Mr. Ralph Williamson, serving as building supervisor.

During this period, worship attendance, membership, Sunday School, Woman's Auxiliary, Men's Fellowship and Free Will Baptist League experienced heartfelt and encouraging progress.

On January 3, 1956, the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser answered the call to pastor this young church and labored for the Lord for nearly 18 years. His ministry was followed by that of the Rev. Cedric Pierce. Many great things took place during these years. Spiritual growth, of course, was uppermost with God's Word being forcefully delivered, complemented with songs of praise by the congregation, several singing groups, and a choir that is well directed and composed of talent anxious to prepare for future services.

The youth of the church were not neglected as adults volunteered to work with the YFAs and AFCs and with a more recent and very successful beginning of a Junior Church complete with song service and devotion on the age level of the children during the Sunday morning worship hour.

Perhaps one of the greatest steps taken by our church was the decision to sponsor a radio ministry. This program was started in February of 1975 and each Sunday night our services are broadcast live from the church to many thousands of listeners in North Carolina. The cost of this program is paid for by voluntary contributions from the church members.

As with other Free Will Baptist ministers, our pastor, the Rev. O. B. Jones, is not satisfied with the progress of our church. He is constantly working to make our church a better, more effective soul-winning station for Christ. At the same time he is striving to keep a warm, dedicated, and reverent atmosphere within our number and earn and keep the respect of all the people of our community and denomination.

The building program has included completion of the educational building; starting a fellowship building; building a parsonage; building concrete curbs and sidewalks; building a volleyball court; building, furnishing, and carpeting the sanctuary; erecting a steeple; adding to the parsonage; and most recently, the renovation, and completion of the fellowship building.

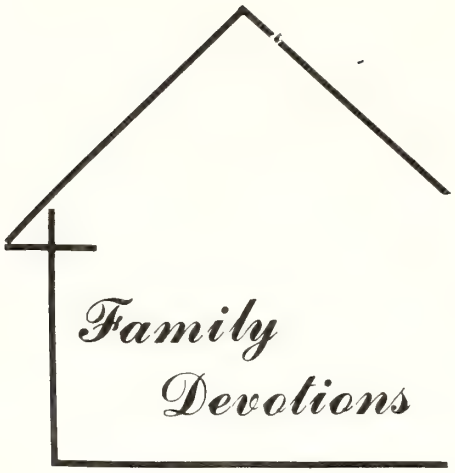
With Sunday school enrollment of approximately 250 and church membership of approximately 325, it was necessary to purchase additional land for parking and recreational purposes.

It has been a source of humble pride that four ordained ministers were called from our midst and there are at present three licensed ministers in our congregation.

The support of denominational enterprises has been a priority since our church was organized and we feel that a strong and treasured relationship exists between our church and all other bodies of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

Our pastor and his congregation do not consider its work complete by any means. There are many projects to improve and opportunities to explore.

We do not know if we deserve the honor and distinction of being selected as the church of the month, but if it should happen it will be a twenty-fifth anniversary victory for the Tarboro First Free Will Baptist Church and our Saviour.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 8:6

CHRIST, THE "HUB"

We like to think of the Lord Jesus as being the "hub" in a great wheel, and of God's children as being the "spokes." The closer we get to Christ, the "Hub," the closer we get to one another! Born-again believers are "one in Christ!" When we feel a growing coldness in our hearts toward our brothers and sisters in Christ, let us "steal away" to the "secret place of the Most High," and there pray: "More love, O Christ, to Thee!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

The love of Christ shines through us upon all with whom we come in contact. Pray that we may become brighter lights that might lead others to Christ.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 12:3

CONSIDER HIM

When the storm is raging high,
When the tempest rends the sky,
When my eyes with tears are dim,
Then, my soul, "consider Him."

When my plans are in the dust,
When my dearest hopes are crushed,
When is passed each foolish whim,
Then, my soul, "consider Him."

When with dearest friends I part,
When deep sorrow fills my heart,
When pain racks each weary limb,
Then, my soul, "consider Him."

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we consider all that Christ has endured to make our lives better, it is hard to weep and wail over our misfortunes. He has made a bright and promising eternity available to us all.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—John 6:37

A BETTER METHOD

There have been many who have criticized the method of Moody in asking men and women after his service to signify publicly their intention to take their stand for Christ.

A minister on one occasion took the evangelist to task for it. Moody listened to his objection, and said: "I agree with you, brother. I don't altogether like the method myself, and I am always looking for a better. What is yours?"

Considerably taken aback, the clergyman confessed he had no method, and did not invite men and women to make a public profession of their faith in the Saviour.

PRAYER THOUGHT

To criticize is a great cover of our own inadequacies. Less censorship and more workmanship would make for a better relationship.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—Matthew 18:17

SLOWING DOWN

A boy named Donald observed that the grandfather clock was striking the hour very slowly, and heard his Uncle John remark, "Sounds as if the striking part of it nearly run down." The following Sunday morning Uncle John's wife came in the room where he was reading, and asked him if he were going to church. He replied very slowly, "Oh, I—I suppose so." Then Donald remarked: "Why Uncle John, that sounds as if the chapel part of you is nearly run down. Is it?" Uncle John flushed as he threw the paper aside, saying, "Maybe it is, Donald; but we'll wind it up again, and aet a little stronger movement."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Are we sometimes run down and don't want to go to church on Sunday? Do we like to sleep late, which in turn makes us late for church or not wanting to go to church at all?

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—Psalm 105:15

WORDS LIKE ARROWS

How like an arrow is a word
At random often speeding
To find a target never meant
And set some heart-a-bleeding.

Oh, pray that heaven may seal the lips
Ere unkind words are spoken;
For heaven itself cannot recall,
When once that seal is broken.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The tongue really is mightier than the sword and just as cutting. Temper the steel of your tongue and take pity on your victim.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 11:13

PEOPLE WILL TALK

You may go through the world, but 'twill be very slow
If you listen to all that is said as you go;
You'll be worried and fretted and kept in a stew,
For meddlesome tongues must have something to do—
For people will talk.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Perhaps people were better off when they lived miles from each other and had to work from dawn till dark. At least, they spread less gossip.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 2:8

FAITHFULNESS REQUIRED

I recall a message from a devoted young missionary in Central America. It came in a letter in which he gave a peek into the depths of his own heart as well as into the trials of

the work. "The work is hard," said he. "I go about on fishing boats through the day. At night I sleep on piles of hides on the decks. The people do not seem much interested in the gospel message I bring. Sometimes the adversary tempts me to discouragement in the face of seeming lack of success. But I take courage and press on anew as I remember that God does not hold me responsible for success but for faithfulness."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Are we faithful to our God, our fellowmen, and ourselves? God asks for our loyal allegiance. Is our compliance such a task?

(Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdman's Press.)

IN MEMORY CLARENCE SCHYLER BUNN

Clarence Schyler Bunn passed away August 28, 1978, following a lengthy illness. Funeral services were held at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church by the Rev. Larry Melton, pastor, and the Rev. C. M. Coates, a former pastor. Music was provided by Mrs. Glenn Talton at the piano and Roger Buchanan, vocalist, son-in-law of Mr. Bunn. Graveside services were performed by the Rev. Leonard B. Woodall Jr. in the church cemetery.

He is survived by his wife of fifty years, Zora Woodall Bunn; two daughters, Mrs. Bettie Lou Talton; Mrs. Shelba Buchanan; three sons, C. Donald; Dr. Joe M.; and Capt. David B. Bunn; and twelve grandchildren.

Mr. Bunn joined the church at age 14 and served on the deacon board for 16 years. He had a perfect attendance record in Sunday school for 28 years. His home was situated within 500 yards of the church and he kept watch over the church property.

During the sixty-two years Clarence Bunn was a member, he saw Pleasant Hill church go through some good times and some rough times. Some dark times it looked as though it would fold. But he could be counted on for financial support. When a need arose, he came through with whatever extra was needed.

He grew up on the farm and his love of farming kept him on the farm. He welcomed hard work and proved his love for his family by being a good provider.

He was a community leader, an American Patriot, a friend. His natural gift of conversation never let a stranger remain a stranger.

With five children, it was not unusual to find a house full of young people who were always made to feel at home whether for a few minutes, overnight, or a week. As a guest you not only felt welcomed, but you felt he was glad you were there.

He never lost his interest in farming, but during his declining years he learned to appreciate fishing, visiting his relatives, and a flower garden. His greatest joy was taking visitors down the familiar paths, and when they left, he always insisted they take something with them—vegetables, fruit, or flowers.

Clarence Bunn has entered a new life, leaving behind memories and established values that make those of us who knew him grieve for ourselves, but also be extremely thankful that God allowed him to pass our way.

—Nancy E. Matthews

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Paul Grubbs announces that his new address is: The Rev. Paul Grubbs, 441 Durham Road, Wake Forest 27587. His telephone is 556-1476.

NEW ALL NEW

This year the Bible Bowl Quiz will be based on a book called "Test Your Bible Knowledge" by Carl S. Shoup. You may purchase this book at our Free Will Baptist Bookstores or at any Christian Bookstore for $1.25. The actual quiz will be taken from Page 185 to Page 216 starting with Question 1233 through Question 1437. This will cover Romans through Revelation for a total of 205 questions. (Note—answers to the questions are in the back of the book.) Save this book; we may use it in the future for another Bible Bowl Quiz. For your copy of the rules, please contact your New General Conference Youth Chairman: Mrs. Edna Fowler, P. O. Box 164, Cumberland, North Carolina 28331; or phone, (919) 425-7873 or leave a message at 425-6695.

Coming Events . . .

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 21—Eastern Conference District WA Conference

September 30—Youth Convention, King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, 7:30 p. m.

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 3—Ordaining Council of Central Conference will meet 10 a. m. at the Press

October 4—Albemarle Conference, Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown

October 12—Western Conference, Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson

October 12—Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth

October 14—Cape Fear Sunday School Convention

October 14—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Horry County, South Carolina

October 18, 19—Eastern Conference, Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul

October 20-22—Fall Break, Mount Olive College

October 29—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention

October 29—Mount Olive Day in Local Churches

NEWS & NOTES

Rock of Zion Church Announces Revival and Homecoming

Rock of Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Grantsboro will have revival services September 25-29, 1978 at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. C. F. Bowen, a well-known and popular Free Will Baptist minister and author of several denominational publications, will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. Ray Williamson, asks for your prayers and invites everyone to come. Homecoming will be observed on October 1 with the morning worship service featuring the history of Rock of Zion, dinner on the grounds, and an afternoon singspiration. All friends, former members and pastors are cordially welcome.

Vacation Bible School First Church, Wilson

The vacation Bible school commencement of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, was held recently with one of the largest attendances on record. A delightful program, entitled "See Saw," created and directed by Mrs. Jackie Simmons, was enjoyed by all. The theme of Christians—the way we fantasize ourselves and the way we really are—was carried out by the entire student body dressed in jeans, straw hats, and no shoes. The format of the television show Hee-Haw was used. Alane Vester was overall director of the school. The Rev. Clyde W. Cox is the pastor; the Rev. Craig Simmons, is the youth pastor.

Rosebud Church Having Revival Services

Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church, near Wilson, is having revival services the week of September 24-29. Prayer rooms open at 7:30 p. m. followed by worship service at 7:45. The Rev. Charles Renfrow from Fremont Free Will Baptist Church will be the guest speaker. The pastor, Bruce Steadman, invites the public to come and worship the Lord.

Friendship Church Weekend Retreat Group



Retreat Group

A group from the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Farmville, left Thursday afternoon, September 7 with 53 in attendance for a weekend retreat at Cragmont. There was a sightseeing trip to Gatlinburg on Friday. The theme of the retreat was "Faith." The group returned home on Sunday. This was the fifth year that a group from Friendship church has attended Cragmont.

Revival Services at Spring Hill Church

Revival services will begin on Monday, September 25 and continue through Friday night, September 29, at Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church, US 70 West, Goldsboro. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The Rev. Harold Jones, pastor of Living Waters Free Will Baptist Church, near Pikeville, will be the evangelist. The pastor of Spring Hill, the Rev. William Dale, and the congregation extend an invitation to everyone to attend. There will be special singing and a nursery will be provided.

Victory Mission Has Homecoming

Victory Free Will Baptist Mission, Hope Mills, will celebrate homecoming on September 24. There will be special singing, and dinner on the grounds. Everyone is invited.

Gum Swamp Church Homecoming and Revival

Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 6, Greenville, will observe its annual homecoming, Sunday, September 24. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. followed by the worship service at 11 a. m., with Dr. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, bringing the morning worship message. Lunch will be served after the worship service on the church grounds. An afternoon sing will begin at 1:30 p. m. featuring The King's Messengers, from Pikeville, North Carolina.

Revival services will begin Monday night, September 25 through the 29. Services begin each night at 7:30 . The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Bobby Brown, pastor of the Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, North Carolina. The church and pastor, the Rev. Bobby R. Taylor, extend a cordial invitation to these services.

Revival in Progress St. Mary's Grove Church

St. Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Benson, is having its fall revival services continuing through September 22. The Rev. Kemery Ard, pastor of Powhatan church of Clayton, is the speaker for the week. Services begin each evening at 7:45. There is special music each evening. The public is invited. The Rev. Ed C. Taylor is the pastor of the St. Mary's Grove church.

Wintergreen Church Ordains Ministers



Left to right, the Rev. Clifton Rice, McDonald Bennett, Donald Fader, Bobby Brown, and David Cauley.

An Ordination Service was held 7:30 p. m., August 27, at Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Cove City, for the following candidates: McDonald Bennett, Bobby Brown, David Cauley, and Donald Fader. Members of the Ordaining Council of the Eastern Conference conducting the services were the Revs. Clifton Rice, David W. Hansley, Bruce Dudley, W. H. Willis, and Adrian Grubbs, who delivered the charge sermon. The Rev. Clifton Rice presented the certificates.

Following the service the ladies of the host church gave a reception in honor of the new ministers. Approximately four hundred persons attended.

Ayden Church Has Revival And Homecoming

Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden, announces that the fall revival is in progress through September 22. The speaker for these services is the Rev. James Joyner, pastor of the Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly. Services begin each evening at 7:30 p. m. There is special music in each service.

Homecoming services will be held on September 24, with Sunday school and morning worship as usual. There will also be a special afternoon service, with emphasis on the history of the church and how that history relates to our denomination. The speakers for this service will be the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood and Dr. W. Burkette Raper. The homecoming dinner will be at noon in the fellowship hall.

Revival and Homecoming At Corinth Church

Corinth Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Jamesville, announces its fall revival September 18-23. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Francis Garner. The time of the services is 7:45 p. m. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Charlie T. Rice. Special music will be featured each night. The church will also observe homecoming on Sunday, September 24. Everyone welcome.

Stoney Creek Church Welcomes New Pastor



Bobby G. Bazen

On August 20, 1978, the Rev. Bobby G. Bazen began pastoral duties at the Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Goldsboro, North Carolina. The church gave an open-house reception at the parsonage, sponsored by the Woman's Auxiliary of the church, in the afternoon.

Coming into the area from a Pitt County community near Greenville where he pastored for six years at the Black Jack church, Mr. Bazen and family are anticipating many rewarding labors with the people in the Goldsboro area.

The church is planning a fall revival October 8-13, 1978, with the new pastor preaching nightly. Sunday, October 15, 1978, will be the annual Stoney Creek homecoming. The church and pastor welcome you to worship and fellowship with them.

Heaven Bound Group Reedy Branch Church



Heaven Bound

On Sunday night, September 24, 7:30 p. m. the Heaven Bound Quartet will present a concert at the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville.

This Kinston-based group has traveled extensively giving gospel singing concerts. They have been well received wherever they have appeared and each of these men have a very sincere testimony for Christ.

They will have charge of the entire worship service.

The pastor, the Rev. Willis Wilson, cordially invites all to attend and share in this service.

Ormondsville Church Plans Fall Festival

Ormondsville Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Ayden, will have its harvest festival on October 6, beginning at 5 p. m. There will be crafts for sale, hot dogs, and drinks. The events will include a country store, dunking machine, games for everyone, haunted house and a hay ride. This will take place in the fellowship building. The pastor and members invite everyone to attend. The proceeds will go to the building fund of the church.

(Continued on Page 15)

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

"A Christian Home
for Boys and Girls"

Children's Home



MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
AUGUST, 1978
TOTAL: $13,772.53

Albemarle Conference

Corinth	$ 10.00
Malachi's Chapel	200.00
Mount Tabor	70.57
Auxiliary Convention	20.00
Union Meeting	60.26
Sunday School District Convention	64.10
Shiloh	32.48
Sound Side	50.00
TOTAL	$ 507.41

Blue Ridge Association

Cedar Hill	$ 13.18
TOTAL	$ 13.18

Cape Fear Conference

Catalpa	$ 25.00
Goldsboro	58.30
Hopewell	20.00
Johnston Union	11.00
Mount Olive	20.00
Robert's Grove	20.00
Shady Grove	35.00
Smithfield	20.00
Victory Mission	73.29
West Clinton	84.50
Yelverton Grove	20.00
TOTAL	$ 387.09

Central Conference

Aspen Grove	$ 200.00
Ayden	310.00
Black Jack	106.11
Community	115.00
Daniels Chapel	80.00
Edgewood	5.00
Elm Grove	18.90
Free Union	35.00
Friendship	275.43
Greenville	10.00
Gum Swamp	100.00
Hickory Grove	23.00
Hugo	4.00
Hull Road	375.00
King's Cross Roads	80.00
LaGrange	25.00
Marlboro	300.00
Ormondsville	8.00
Peace	39.00
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	157.45
Pleasant Hill	20.00
Roanoke Rapids	10.00
Rocky Mount	42.00
Rose of Sharon	25.00
Winterville	273.98
2nd Union	12.70
4th Union	71.45
TOTAL	$2,722.02

Eastern Conference

Bethel	$ 25.00
Bethlehem	10.00
Beulaville	520.00
Core Creek	85.56
Crab Point	15.00
Davis	81.19
Deep Run	100.00
Dublin Grove	12.00
Edwards Chapel	45.00
Holly Springs	30.00
Juniper Chapel	43.62
Kinston	45.00
Lanier's Chapel	20.00
New Haven	39.60
Northeast	44.80
Oriental	141.18
Otway	30.00
Pearsall's Chapel	25.00
Rock of Zion	70.00
Saints Delight	69.50
Sandy Plain	225.00
Sarecta	75.00
Smith's New Home	70.00
Smyrna	75.00
Sneads Ferry	100.00
Sound View	25.00
Spring Hope	50.00
Saint Mary's	115.00
Verona	7.50
Warden's Grove	526.66
Whaley's Chapel	183.00
White Hill	25.00
Woodrow First	20.00
5th Union	75.00
5th Sunday School Convention	60.00
3rd Union	50.00
Auxiliary District	150.00
TOTAL	$3,246.61

Pee Dee Association

Cypress Creek	$ 36.00
Mount Calvary	100.00
Union No. 1	66.81
Oak Grove	75.00
Total	$ 277.81

Piedmont Conference

Conference	$ 100.00
Baptist Road	35.00
Calvary	48.00
East Rockingham	204.62
Highland Pines	15.00
TOTAL	$ 402.62

Rock Fish Association

Conference	$ 14.50
Sandy Grove	200.00
TOTAL	$ 214.50

Toe River Association

Odom's Chapel	$ 28.25
Roan's Chapel	200.00
TOTAL	$ 228.25

Western Conference

Barnes Hill	$ 250.00

Branch Chapel	364.10
Calvary	20.00
Durham, First	20.00
Elwood Lane	21.72
Everett Chapel	70.94
Fremont	3.75
Friendship	100.00
Kenly	60.00
Little Rock	598.05
Marsh Swamp	80.00
Memorial Chapel	50.00
Micro	140.00
Milbournie	149.09
Mount Zion	26.22
Youth Fellowship	30.00
1st Union	100.00
2nd Union	75.00
New Sandy Hill	25.00
Northern	500.00
Piney Grove	20.00
Pine Level	93.25
Pleasant Grove	90.00
Pleasant Hill	98.92
Pleasant Plain	70.00
Rains Cross Roads	20.00
Rosebud	5.00
Sherron Acres	75.00
Stancil's Chapel	177.50
Saint Mary's	513.75
Stoney Creek	75.00
Stony Hill	5.00
Trinity	20.00
Union Chapel	32.50
Union Grove	67.50
Unity (Durham)	25.00
Wilson	1,300.00
TOTAL	$5,307.29

Other States

Cazy Young Mothers	$ 20.00
Bim Ladies Aid	10.00
Boone County Youth	25.00
Shelby, Ohio	74.53
Laurel City Sunday School	52.02
TOTAL	$ 181.55

Statewide

Auxiliary Convention	$ 191.20
TOTAL	$ 191.20

MEMORIAL GIFTS
AUGUST, 1978
TOTAL: $27.00

GIVEN BY:
Free Union FWB Church
Dublin Grove FWB Church
Mrs. Elizabeth Redding

IN MEMORY OF:
Mrs. Clyde L. Letchworth
Mrs. Josephine Hudnell
Mrs. Florence Craven

Woman's Auxiliary

CENTRAL CONFERENCE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The Central Conference Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be held at the Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church, Snow Hill, North Carolina, on September 27. District president is Mrs. Ernest Carraway and vice president is Mrs. Gary Bailey. The theme is "Faithful in the Stewardship of Life." The Scripture is taken from Galatians 2:20: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." The program is as follows:

Morning Session

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Living for Jesus"
—Devotion, Mrs. Levi Worthington
—Welcome, Mrs. Steve Gaydek
—Response, Mrs. Josephine Harris
10:30—Recognition Time
—Business Period
—Missions, Miss Leah McGlohon
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries (Mission Money—Pennies for Cragmont)
—Children's Home, Mrs. Jane Tripp
—Love Offering
—Hymn, "Give of Your Best to the Master"
—College, Mrs. Dianne Riley
—Special Music, Mount Olive College
11:30—Introduction of Speaker, Mrs. Bertha Harris
—Morning Message, the Rev. Tom Miller
12:00—Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:15—Hymn, "To the Work"
—Prayer
—Memorial Service, Mrs. William McLawhorn
—Our Youth, Mrs. Jack Dail
—Free Will Baptist Press, Mrs. Elizabeth Hill
—Study Course, Mrs. Albert Proctor
—Cragmont, Mrs. A. B. Chandler
—Anna Phillips Loan Fund, Mrs. Jessie Harris
—Business Period
—Time of Renewal
—Hymn, "I Surrender All"
2:30—Adjournment
Pianist, Miss Valerie Wood
Music Director, Miss Leah McGlohon

ROSE OF SHARON AUXILIARY TO HAVE STUDY COURSE

The Ladies Auxiliary of Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church is sponsoring a study course on "The History of Free Will Baptists." The study is to be taught on two nights, September 21 and 28. The beginning time will be 8 each evening. Rose of Sharon church is located on Route 1, Robersonville, near Bear Grass.

The Rev. Gary M. Bailey, pastor of Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, will be the speaker.

The study will begin with a look at the origin of "Free Will Baptist Beliefs" as early as the Seventeenth Century. There will be a general survey of the History of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina from 1727 until the present day. On the last night a portion of the time will be devoted to a look at what Free Will Baptists of North Carolina are doing today.

(Continued on Page 13)

FROM ASHES TO FLAMES

This is a true story, but the names of the family have been changed.

(Continued from Last Week)

She seemed to be totally unimpressed. As the conversation progressed, however, I became aware that another law of scripture was in operation: "**Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.**" Whatever is in a person's heart will soon be revealed from the lips. It finally developed that there really was something wrong with her relationship with the other man. It was necessary to point bluntly at God's Seventh Commandment, "**Thou shalt not commit adultery.**"

It is amazing what happens to a person to whom the very Word of God is quoted. He may delight in arguing with another's opinion; but he will hardly presume to set himself up against the written Scripture. It was so with the woman before me. She did not wish to contradict the passage quoted.

She had stated previously that as a small girl she had gone to Sunday school and had learned some of the divine precepts. She knew in her heart what was right and what was wrong, and that one cannot break God's Laws and get away with it. Her attitude changed completely. The Word of God had broken through! "**Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord, and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?**"

Alice was quiet for a moment, and then she said, "I want to take God's way. But I have prayed before, and He didn't hear me."

"Of course He didn't. Contrary to popular opinion, there are circumstances under which God refuses to hear a prayer. Psalm 66:18 gives the reason. '**If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.**' If we flaunt God's Laws in His face He will not listen to our petition. First of all, He requires total repentance and a complete turning from all that we know to be wrong."

"I will take God's way. I want to give my life to Him."

"But are you sure that you know what it means to give your life to Him? It is a very serious thing, and not to be entered into lightly nor half-heartedly. You must turn completely from your own way to His way. It must be a full consecration to God, because He says, '**You shall seek me, and find me, when you shall search for me with all your heart.**' "

As I had done with Jim the night before, I explained to her what God had done that He might forgive us and grant us everlasting life. I turned now in my Bible to the same verse of Scripture that I had read to Jim—Romans 10:9—and had her read it to me: "**If thou shalt confess with thy mouth Jesus as Lord, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.**"

"Will you help me to pray?" Alice asked.

"Yes, on one condition. I will help you if you promise not to repeat a single word after me unless you really mean it."

"I promise," she said as we both knelt. She repeated a prayer then approximately as follows: "Lord Jesus, I take You to be my Saviour and Lord. Please come into my heart and cleanse me from all sin. I will turn from my own way and take Your way for my life. I will turn from everything I know to be wrong and take You to be my Lord and Master now and forever." Then there burst from her lips these unforgettable words: "Lord, give me a right attitude toward my husband!" I knew then that another miracle had taken place in a human heart.

It was now nearing two o'clock in the morning. All this time Jim had been sitting in the car in front of the house. I asked her if I could go out and get him, and all of us pray together. Alice nodded in the affirmative.

When Jim got out of the car I noticed that he was trembling like a leaf. As we entered the room where Alice was sitting, he still had that wild look of apprehension in his eyes. As she met his gaze she immediately rose to her feet and exclaimed, "Honey, don't look at me like that!"

He swept her into his arms and crushed her to him. In a moment we knelt again in prayer. There was no need to help either of them now. They poured out their hearts in gratitude to the One Who had wrought so great a miracle in each heart.

While we were still on our knees, I said, "Jim, you have been bitter in your heart against Alice. Will you ask her to forgive you?"

He turned to her and said, "Honey, will you forgive me?"

She answered, "Oh darling, can you forgive **me!**" There was another crushing embrace as the One looked down from above Who said, ". . . **what therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.**"

As I drove away that early morning I beheld, standing in the doorway, the same man who had stood there alone the night before; but now, standing beside him with arm locked in his was the woman who had borne him his two lovely little girls. This was the second unforgettable scene framed in that same doorway.

The Gideon Convention closed early Sunday afternoon, and having been invited to stop in to see my new-found friends before going home, I drove again to the little cottage. We had talked only a few minutes when Alice said, "Can we have another prayer together?" Remember, this was the person who said that she could never pray in the presence of someone else.

Out of a heart full of gratitude to her new-found Saviour. Alice poured out her soul to Him. When she had finished, Jim began to pray in his slow, deliberate way. Just then the door opened, and Kathy, the eleven-year-old daughter, entered the room. When she saw that we were praying she quietly begged our

pardon and was about to withdraw. I felt led to call her back. "Honey, we are talking to Jesus. Would you like to join us?" She nodded and came and knelt at my feet. When Jim had finished praying I said to Kathy, "Wouldn't you like to pray too?"

When she looked up I saw the face of an angel. The love which this little girl had in her heart for the stranger, who she felt had been sent by the Lord Himself, was clearly shown in her dark, beautiful eyes. The look of mingled gratitude, adoration and sheer joy was exquisite to behold.

"What's your name?" she said simply. I told her. She then bowed her head reverently and began to pray. "Thank you, Jesus, for my wonderful Mother and Daddy. Thank you, Jesus, for **changing** Mother and Daddy.Thank you for sending Mr. Fredeen. God bless my little sister, and me, and all of us—in Jesus' name, Amen."

Later as we sat talking, Kathy came again and knelt at my feet. Her next words still burn in my soul.

"You practically made a miracle."

"How so?"

"Oh, Mother and Daddy—they're so different."

"It wasn't I who made the miracle. It was Jesus. He is the Only One Who can change people's hearts. That's what He did for your Mother and Father."

"I would like to give my whole life to Jesus," she said.

"If you really mean it you can do it right now." I thrilled as Kathy brought out a small red New Testament which she had been reading. To me this was a familiar sight, because the Gideons have given out millions of these Testaments to the school children of this country and Canada.

Kathy then found Romans 10:9 in her Testament, and read out loud the verse which had wrought such a change in the lives of her parents. Then she bowed her head and prayed a very simple, very beautiful prayer of total consecration. Once again a shining, radiant face, glowing with the very glory of Heaven, was upturned to mine. One simple Bible verse!—but sufficient to fill the heart's need of father, mother and child!

While this was going on, little sister Marcelle and a playmate named Sharon had been looking on. Sharon also had a little red New Testament just like Kathy's. She too, was very proud of her "treasure." Both Sharon and Marcelle now came and knelt beside Kathy, stating that they too wished to give their hearts to Jesus. Our wonderful verse was read again, and two small girls solemnly dedicated their lives to God. I thought again of what the Lord said to His disciples:

"Except ye be converted, and become like little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

The hours slipped away and it came time for the evening meal. They invited me to stay. In the heavenly atmosphere which now prevailed, it was difficult to say good-bye. Alice said that little Marcelle had come to her and had whispered this confession, "Mommy, I was going to take a piece of candy from your box in the bedroom and then say I didn't do it, but something wouldn't let me, and I decided to ask you instead." I explained to Alice that that was the Spirit of God speaking in the heart of her little girl.

Kathy asked if I could stay overnight, and Jim and Alice said that they would sleep in the attic so that I might have their room. I explained I had to be on my way, but that there was one little surprise left for all of them. Going out to the car I brought in my old guitar and asked if they would like to sing a little chorus or two. They all responded enthusiastically, and we began to sing. Soon someone asked for "The Old Rugged Cross." In the middle of the first verse Kathy began to cry.

"Why is she crying?" Jim asked.

"Because he is going home," Alice answered.

Kathy was sobbing convulsively. Then it occurred to me that in her little heart she associated the coming of the stranger from Seattle with the heaven that had come into her home. She thought that if this man left, then the terrible storm would break over that little family again.

Leaning over, I took Kathy in my arms and kissed her on the cheek. Never in eternity will I forget how two small arms swept around my neck and clung ever so tightly. There was also a hard-pressed kiss and hot tears against my cheek. It was a long, sacred embrace.

I then took Kathy on one knee and little Marcelle on the other, explaining to them that although I had to go home, Jesus would stay with them always, and they needn't be afraid of anything. They could also have "Family Worship" where each one would help Mother and Daddy and all of them to live for the Lord Jesus as they had promised Him. They all agreed, and finally Kathy was comforted.

As good-byes were being exchanged, Alice said, "I have a wonderful husband!"

Jim, not to be outdone, shot back, "I've got a wonderful wife!"

Then, and many times since, I thanked God for the privilege of being able to say, "I saw God restore a broken home."

I drove home that night in stunned silence, having witnessed a series of very wonderful miracles. Certainly, I had been on holy ground. In that home, love had faded to dead ashes. But Christ had come in and had done the impossible, and now that precious flame was leaping higher than ever.

Forever engraved in my memory will be the three scenes in the doorway: the first night, the smiling husband; the second night, the happy husband and wife standing arm in arm; and finally, the father, mother and two little girls, encircled now by the Everlasting Arms, Whose hands bore the unmistakable prints of the nails which once held them to a cruelly fashioned cross.

These events took place several years ago. Today, at this writing, Kathy is a

Turn the Page

lovely Christian girl of seventeen. Her sister Marcelle is in her early teens. This little family has continued to follow the Lord, and their love for one another has continued to grow ever sweeter.

Jim and Alice have not been ashamed to acknowledge Christ as their Lord before others. The result has been that they have been privileged to win a goodly number of others to the Saviour. There is no greater thrill in life than to lead lost men, women and children to the Saviour, and then to see their lives completely changed through Him.

Maybe your problem is not the same as the seemingly insurmountable one which this family faced. However, no matter what your problem is, Christ the Saviour stands ready to receive you and to forgive your sins, and to give you a wonderful new life.

You may state that you are already a Christian, but in dire trouble and perplexity. Yes, it's true that even Christians find themselves at times in real trouble. But may I ask you, are you sure you are a Christian? **Have you truly been converted from selfishness and sin to true faith in Jesus Christ?**

The Prophet Isaiah stated in Isaiah 55:7, "**Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.**" There must be a forsaking of the old way and a turning to God's way if you are to be truly converted to Christ, which is the only way you can be a Christian.

If He is not truly your Lord now, will you sincerely invite Him into your heart to reign there as Lord, and will you receive Him and trust Him as your Saviour? And will you determine to boldly take your stand for and with Him? If this is your sincere desire, will you make the following your very own prayer to the Lord? This is the prayer that Alice prayed, as she repeated the words after me.Remember, do not put your name to this prayer unless you mean it **with all your heart.**

Lord Jesus, I take You to be my Saviour and Lord. Please come into my heart and cleanse me from all sin. I will turn from my own way and take your way for my life. I will turn from everything I know to be wrong and take You to be my Lord and Master now and forever."

As a new Christian you will need spiritual food for strength and growth. You will find this food mainly in the New Testament part of the Bible. Even as a child needs food for growth, and as a grown person needs food for continued strength, we mortals need spiritual food for our spiritual growth and strength. It is spiritual suicide to neglect the reading of the Bible.

Also, spend time each day, and even many times during the day, in companionship with your Lord through prayer. Sometimes your prayer will be only a sentence or two. Other times it will be a long and earnest talk with your God.

Then don't forget the multitudes of others who need the message of life. They too need the forgiveness which God offers through Jesus Christ. And those who receive the Saviour will need encouragement and guidance in their Christian lives. You can be of help to so many people when you yourself are right with the Lord.

Search out a church where the pastor and the members really love the Lord. The Lord has commanded all believers to be baptized. When you find the church where they love the Lord, then approach the pastor about your desire to follow the Lord in baptism.

Life is very brief. Eternity will never end. If you allow these truths to take hold of you, there will be little desire on your part to live only for the pleasures and satisfactions of this brief life. May God make you to be exceedingly ambitious for that which is everlasting, where full contentment, joy and love will forever abound.

—Axel P. Fredeen

Prosperity—The short time between the final installment and the next purchase.

The most bored people are not the underprivileged but the over-privileged.

COMMITMENT

Submitted by Nancy Matthews

Why be committed? What is commitment? Commitment is defined as surrender. Why surrender to the work of the Lord?

Things happen when one is committed. Changes are made, history is written. You can see the results.

Ben Franklin flew a kite during a thunderstorm, and in doing so he actually laid his life on that kite string. That's commitment. From this act of commitment, we now enjoy power and light at the push of a button. Much of the heat in our homes is controlled by electricity. It is as though a part of the great patriot, Benjamin Franklin, is with us from the time we get up in the morning until we touch the final light switch for the night.

David Livingston was a giant of a man who had compassion for the African people. Suppose he had sent $5 to the Foreign Mission Board, then had forgotten about missions. But David Livingston was committed. He spent his life on foreign soil and because of his commitment we will meet thousands in Heaven who otherwise would have had quite a different eternity.

During Colonial times in America, Paul Palmer, the itinerant preacher who believed so strongly in a doctrine of free grace, free will, and free salvation, would not give up when all but five churches he had founded turned away to other doctrines. Only a handful of people, but with total commitment, and today the Free Will Baptist denomination has reached out to touch across the nation and several foreign countries.

Adolph Hitler was committed to being the supreme ruler of a super race. Terror, bloodshed, and evil acts too horrible for the imagination came out of his reign. As long as there is a world, the name of Hitler will be remembered. That's what happens where there is total commitment. Hitler was a super genius. Suppose, just suppose now, that his genius had been channeled toward work for the Lord.

Only God knows what lies in store for His work if we, Free Will Baptists, who are called by Christ's own name, will lay ourselves on the line for Him in total commitment. Things will happen,

(Continued on Page 15)

MOC

MRS. RILEY TO SPEAK

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College, will speak for youth Sunday services at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton on Sunday, September 24.

The Rev. Lloyd Hargis is pastor.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will preach the homecoming sermon at Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church near Greenville on Sunday, September 24.

The Rev. Bobby Taylor is pastor.

FOUR DINNER PLANNING MEETINGS REMAIN

Edgecombe-Halifax Counties—Monday, September 25, at 7:30 p. m. at First Tarboro church.

Jones County—Sunday, September 24, at 3 p. m. at Friendship church near Trenton.

Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties—Thursday, September 21, at 7:30 p. m. at Oak Grove church near Dunn.

Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, and Pasquotank Counties—Tuesday, September 26, at 7:30 p. m. at Mount Tabor church near Creswell.

TRUSTEES MEET



Standing with Mount Olive College President, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, right, are Trustees, from left, Raymond Sasser of Wilson; Chairman of the Board, James B. Hunt. Sr., of Lucama; and Marvin Edwards of Wilson.

Mount Olive College Board of Trustees met on the College campus for their quarterly meeting held recently.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE TRUSTEES APPROVE BUDGET

The Mount Olive College Board of Trustees approved an annual budget of $2,116,738 for the 1979-80 fiscal year. The approved budget is an increase of $107,298 over expenditures during the 1977-78 fiscal year.

Included in the new budget is over $520,000 for various forms of financial aid in scholarships and grants.

The board also approved plans to include an intercollegiate baseball program beginning in the 1979-80 academic year.

COLLEGE DINNERS SET

The following county dinners to benefit Mount Olive College have been scheduled in the month of October.

As College Dinners are planned the information will be published in the FREE WILL BAPTIST.

CRAVEN COUNTY, Monday, October 23, 7 p. m., Sudan Temple, New Bern, Miss Marice DeBruhl, chairman.

GREENE COUNTY, Saturday, October 14, 7 p. m., George Harrison, chairman. (Location to be announced)

LENOIR COUNTY, Saturday, October 7, 7:30 p.m., King's Barbecue Restaurant, Kinston, Bobby Harrell and Stanley Jenkins, co-chairmen.

WAYNE COUNTY, Tuesday, October 17, 7 p. m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Miss Louise Edgerton, chairman.

DR. PELT TO SPEAK

Dr. Michael Pelt, Chairman of the Humanities Division at Mount Olive College, will preach the homecoming sermon at Saint Paul Free Will Baptist Church near Newton Grove on Sunday, September 24.

The Rev. C. Felton Godwin is pastor.

Woman's Auxiliary

(Continued from Page 9)

The Auxiliary invites any interested person or group to feel free to attend. Refreshments will be served each evening following the study.

If any local auxiliary would like to join in this study course they are asked to contact the Auxiliary Secretary, Mrs. Sandra Moore, Route 4, Williamston, North Carolina 27892, telephone 792-5642.

Two caterpillars were crawling across the grass when a butterfly flew over them. They looked up and one nudged the other and said: "You couldn't get me up in one of those things for a million dollars!"

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For October 1

NEW DIMENSIONS FOR THE OLD LAW

Lesson Text: Matthew 5:17-20; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 7:28, 29
Memory Verse: Matthew 5:17

I. INTRODUCTION

Dick and Jane were unknown to first graders in ancient Israel. "Run, Spot, run" had no place in their curriculum. Few people thought of making learning easy for children, and not very many tried to make it pleasant. The first reader was the Law of Moses—pretty strong stuff for beginners.

But while curricula change, people remain the same. In every age there have been quick learners and slow learners, and there have been teachers skilled and unskilled. Undoubtedly it was so in Israel. A bright child with a skilled teacher might soon be on the way to becoming a doctor of the law; a dull student with a dull teacher could be expected to be a dunce or a dropout.

It is not surprising, then, that the people of Israel developed widely different attitudes toward the law. At one extreme were the scribes and Pharisees, proud of keeping every minute detail of the law. These proud law-keepers, however, were not so careful about more important matters that could not so easily be checked—justice and mercy and faith (Matthew 23:23). At the other extreme were some who were no less proud of being outlaws. These were gangsters like the two thieves who were crucified with Jesus, like Barabbas who escaped crucifixion (Luke 10:30; Matthew 27:38; John 18:38-40). Then there were "publicans and sinners" who could not be arrested as lawbreakers, but who were despised as evildoers; and there were devout and upright people like Joseph and Mary. And of course there were multitudes of people who had more or less knowledge of the law and more or less respect for it. The Pharisees despised these multitudes as people who did not know the law (John 7:49); but these were the people who gladly listened to Jesus (Mark 12:37), while the scribes and priests plotted to destroy Him (Mark 11:18). Such multitudes gathered around Jesus with His disciples to hear the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1). While many of them were careless about keeping the law completely, they would be quick to turn against Jesus if He should denounce the law.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Today we begin a new unit of study, "Jesus and the Ten Commandments." This lesson presents Jesus' relationship to the law. The next seven lessons deal with Jesus and the Ten Commandments, and, the last lesson of the quarter, with Jesus' summary of the law.

B. John 1:17 tells us, "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." Here we are studying two different dispensations, law and grace. Let us begin by defining these terms.

C. What is law? Whether human law, or natural law, or the law that God gave through Moses, the underlying principle is always the same. That principle is justice, by which we are penalized for violation of lawful requirements. If we break the law regarding the operation of an automobile, there is a fine, or worse. If we disregard the laws of health we reap the consequences. If we break God's Law the penalty is death: "The soul that sinneth it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4); "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Justice will surely pay those wages.

D. What is grace? It is exactly opposite of law. We call it undeserved favor. God has found a way to meet the demands of the law in His own person. We deserve death under the law, but He put himself under the law and took its penalty. So having thus satisfied every demand of the law, having taken upon Himself what we deserved, He is now free to give us what we did not deserve.

E. This lesson will attempt to answer at least three important questions: Did Jesus Christ cancel out the law? Are we as Christians still bound by the law? If we are not saved by the law, then what was the purpose of the law?

F. Multitudes today are asking the question: "Are there any moral absolutes?" They believe that an action is right or wrong according to the culture in which a person lives and what he himself thinks about it. This is humanism, pure and simple, and makes the mind of man the final criterion of what is right or wrong. Someone once wrote in my New Testament: "Right is right if no one does it; and wrong is wrong if everyone does it." This is true. We must look upon the Laws of God as being absolutes. What we think about them does not change the facts.

G. Jesus' fulfillment of the law means that he met its demands as well as its penalties to set us free so that we might become righteous by virtue of our identification with Him. Jesus was the only perfect lawkeeper. He kept not only the law's outward demands, but its inner spiritual principles. No human being could do that.

H. When we read the Old Testament law and its New Testament interpretation, we must admit our failure to keep it. The only way to achieve righteousness is to accept it as a gift from God. To have faith is to be righteous. We must live to please Christ who made us righteous, not to be

brought under the burden of law-keeping, but to do what He wants us to do.

I. God's plan was not to destroy the law just because men could not keep it. Rather, it was to send someone who could keep it. We are not to think that the law has been abolished. Rather, we are to think that the law has been fulfilled in Christ.

J. Our witness as Christians is not to the law—the law points out our sins. The witness is to the grace that gives us a way to fulfill the law through Jesus Christ. For people working to keep the Ten Commandments and finding it impossible, this is good news.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In our enthusiasm to emphasize the beauty and merits of grace, we often disparage the Law of Moses. In our eagerness to show the love of Jesus Christ as opposed to the severity of the law, we often leave the mistaken impression that Jesus came to "abolish" the law, as though it were something hateful or, at best, unnecessary.

B. The grace of God that Jesus came to give as a means of salvation nullifies the law as a means of salvation. (Actually the law was never intended to be a means of salvation.) Yet Jesus, who said He came to fulfill rather than destroy the law, respected it. Indeed, he "gave new depth to the Ten Commandments and encouraged their observance at this new level."

C. This "new level" was the life under grace. We do not observe the Ten Commandments to be saved, for that cannot be, but we are to observe the commandments **because we are saved** and live on the new level of grace. The commandments are still with us, serving as moral guidelines, but grace gives them "new dimensions."

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 7)

New Life Singers At Edgewood Church

The New Life Singers will be singing at Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church near Crisp on Sunday night, September 24 at 7:30 in the evening. The New Life Singers are from Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Wilson, North Carolina.

Peace Church Has Homecoming

Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, North Carolina, is observing its annual homecoming on September 24, with Sunday school at 9:45, worship service at 11, lunch at 12:30 and a special music program in the afternoon, beginning at 1:30.

The Rev. L. B. Manning, pastor, will deliver the morning message.

A very popular gospel group, "The Psalms," will be the featured singers in the afternoon. They have presented a musical program at Peace church in the past, and they are truly a great inspiration and a delight to hear. Their testimonies are great.

The pastor, and members of the church, extend a special invitation to former pastors, members, and friends to come and enjoy a great day in the Lord.

Revival at Cabin Church

Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Beulaville, North Carolina, will have revival services September 25-29. The evangelist will be the Rev. Don Gray. Prayer rooms open at 7:15 p. m. and services begin at 7:30 p. m. The pastor is the Rev. William L. Littleton. Everyone is invited.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Bill Gaylord is available for part of full time service. He may be reached by calling (night) Belhaven 943-2869 or by writing the Rev. Bill Gaylord P. O. Box 117, Pantego, North Carolina 27860.

Elwood Lane Free Will Baptist Church, Kannapolis, is seeking a pastor. Any interested ministers should contact Frank R. Marlowe, chairman of the pulpit committee at 718 Jack Street, Kannapolis, North Carolina 28081, or call after 4 p. m. weekdays or any time on weekends at (704) 932-5667.

COMMITMENT

(Continued from Page 12)

changes will be made. History will be written. You will see results.

Jesus is totally committed to you. Won't you give yourself in commitment to Him?

The church year 1978-79 has been designated "The Committed Year" at First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson. Under the guidance of the Rev. Clyde Cox, pastor, twelve volunteer committees of three will work for a period of one month each to make plans and generate enthusiasm for committing talents and energy to the spreading of the gospel and for bringing to life daily Christian Spiritual awareness.

To the Chancel Choir, regular auxiliaries, and Children's Church already established have been added Teen Bible Study and Youth Choir under the leadership of the Rev. Craig Simmons, youth pastor, and a movie ministry. To be added are a Junior Choir under the direction of Mrs. Jackie Simmons and Mrs. Sandra Pearson; and a Young Married Couples Bible Study.

Creativity in service planning will include special music, narrations, skits, drama, puppet plays, and special services, all to center around the theme "Commitment."

Why commitment? BECAUSE IT IS A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH TO SOMEONE.

a happy way to worship and learn

PUPPETS

Whether in the classroom, at home or in a church service, Broadman puppets bring a smile to every face. Dress them up as Bible characters, people from the past, present, or future, or just plain folks and animals. Let your imagination take over and capture the attention of any audience, large or small, with these delightful Broadman products.

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People puppets are made of velour and polyester with acrylic fur hair. The eyes are plastic; and the mouth opening (the full width of the head) is manipulated with one hand inside the head. The puppets can be cleaned with spot remover.

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Includes one each of the above people puppets and one each of the following wigs: female orange and red wigs and male yellow, black and red wigs. *4364-43* **$134.95**

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These acrylic fur wigs are interchangeable with all Broadman people puppets.

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Black	**4364-47**	Black	**4364-51**
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THE BUS MINISTRY: A CRITICAL EXAMINATION

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

7

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA



Cover Photo by John Taylor

THE BUS MINISTRY: FOR NUMBERS, MEMBERS, OR SOULS?

A converted school bus, a new van, a modified activity bus, a large station wagon, or a car pool—and you have a bus ministry. You designate a driver (someone with a chauffeur's license)—or several drivers, if your goal is sophisticated enough—and you set out to outdo your neighbor church and Sunday school. You bus them in.

You go to the highways and hedges (in accord with His Word), invite the young and old to come to church, offering them transportation "free of charge." You especially appeal to the younger set, knowing that the world provides all manner of enticements; and you attempt to spark their interest in Sunday school and church attendance. You present your church as the place where peace, love, and hope can be found; where Christian fellowship, worship of God, and "a good time in the Lord" are available.

You are sincere. You are not just talking. You really are interested in the welfare of those who haven't been attending the Lord's house, who haven't heard His Word, or who for various reasons have no church affiliation. You are doing the very best you can. You are certain that you are doing the Lord's will by bringing others to share the multitude of blessings you enjoy. You want nothing more than to have them know of your Saviour, to experience the peace that passes understanding and defies any real explanation.

You start out early Sunday morning—sometimes as early as eight o'clock; and you drive for miles—as many as twenty-five one way—to pick up your passengers. They come from diverse socio-economic groups; they range in age from perhaps three years to seventy. Most of the elderly disdain to ride on a bus or to attend church away from their homes when they can get the same "news" on television. But you insist that *fellowshipping* on a personal basis is important, so a few are convinced that they should travel with you. But the majority of your travelers are young people. You feel rightfully proud of your accomplishment. After all, you are doing this for the Lord and for the love of souls. Aren't you?

You ponder the situation. You meet other church buses. You wonder where they are going. You wonder what their routes are and how many passengers they will have when they have finished their course. You wonder how many have been added to their Sunday school rolls since they began busing. You have a mental picture of your Sunday school register. You note that a hundred have been added since you began offering this transportation, and your chest swells with proverbial pride. You find yourself hoping that your record is better than your *competition*. Then it hits you. Yes, *competition!* You have been told that there is a contest being waged. Your minister and a neighboring one have proposed to "bring them in" by droves. At the end of the quarter, the Sunday school having the most new members will be declared the winner. A supper or some previously agreed upon reward will be forthcoming, with the losing church footing the bill.

You suddenly evaluate the situation. Is this the way the Lord really wants it to be? Does He want you to bus them in on Sunday only to *forget about them the remainder of the week?* Does He want you to try to fill their needs on Sunday and to fatten your rolls, so you will be able to boast about how many you had in Sunday school and / or church last Sunday? Does He smile on the local wagers, the contests in which the bus driver who brings the fewest children over a given period of time gets a pie in the face for his shortcomings? Should this be done in the name of Christianity?

We submit that the bus ministry can be beneficial. It does have its value. We realize that some souls who might never know the Lord are brought to Him via this ministry. We are further aware that there are those who cannot attend church, who would not go except as such a service is offered. We are not decrying the bus ministry per se, but we are becoming increasingly troubled by the contemptible practice of gambling in the name of the Lord. And some of the bus ministries are certainly suspect. if not guilty! How say ye?

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Volume 93 Number 38

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The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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THE PRIVILEGE OF SERVING OTHERS

by Miss Marice Debruhl

IT was my privilege to serve as Chairperson of the Craven County Dinner for Mount Olive College for the year 1977, and for me it was just what the term implies; a real privilege. Why did I look upon this assignment as a privilege? The answer is quite simple. To me it was an opportunity to be a part of something I believe in with my entire being: Christian education. Any careful and diligent student of the Bible realizes that God through Jesus Christ has given us access to the Christian life and through the power of the Holy Spirit and with the help of the writers of the New Testament He has provided the ingredients needed to continue that walk in faith. God created each of us with a keen mind and I believe that He expects us to use that mind and to develop it through study and preparation that we might be better equipped to serve Him and our fellowman. The Apostle Paul in his letter to young Timothy gave the following sound advice "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

Mount Olive College is the Free Will Baptists' answer to a need, a place where our young people can learn and can prepare themselves to take their places in the world, no matter what their particular field might be. At the same time it provides an atmosphere and course of study that enables the student to prepare himself to become a qualified Ambassador for Christ, to take his place in the church of his choice better equipped to "rightly divide the word of truth."

The county dinners provide a wonderful opportunity for Free Will Baptists throughout the state to learn about the College and to witness first hand, from the students themselves, the impact Mount Olive is having on their lives. They also provide an opportunity for ministers and laity alike to support our young people and College through their presence and generous giving. As I look ahead to the 1978 Dinner, I feel that the coming days should be a time of reflection and evaluation; of assessing the weak points and the strong points of the 1977 Dinner with a firm commitment on my part to profit from last year's mistakes, that the year 1978 may bring the most successful dinner in the history of Craven County.

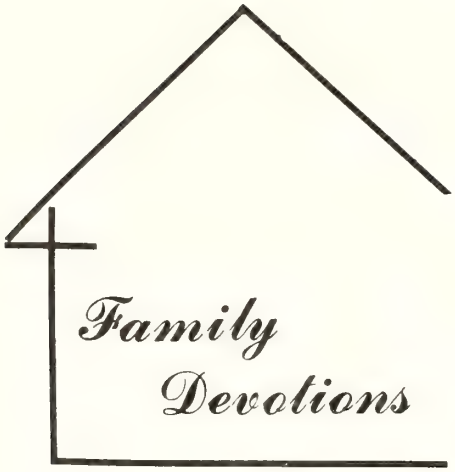
The first College dinner held in Craven County was in the year 1963 and the total money raised that year for the College was $1,906. After that attendance fluctuated and the pattern of giving showed much the same trend until several years ago when new interest and enthusiasm were generated. For a number of years the dinners were held at St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church in New Bern; when these facilities were no longer adequate the dinner was moved in 1975 to Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Vanceboro which was filled to capacity. In an act of faith, the steering committee rented the Dining Room of West Craven High School in 1976. Due to the need of a central location, the 1977 Dinner was held at Sudan Temple in New Bern where people responded in large numbers. It was thus the most successful of the series in Craven County, for it provided the largest attendance ever recorded at the annual dinner, including the largest number of high school students ever present at the dinner, and it recorded the largest amount of money ever raised at the dinner, the total being $5,080.48. Of 17 Free Will Baptist churches in the county, 13 participated in this endeavor through their giving and presence.

Why was 1977 the most successful year for Craven County? How were we able to get our people out in support of the College when there were more things than ever to claim their time and attention? What motivated the increase in giving at a time when inflation and the cost of living were at an all-time high? Again the answer is simple. A group of dedicated people left the planning session with a dream of what the dinner could accomplish and through hard work and determination turned their dream into a reality. Some contacted their members for an outright contribution and others placed the matter before their Sunday school classes and challenged them to reach a definite goal. Even the young people in one church got into the act of sponsoring a car wash with the proceeds directed to the Craven County Dinner for Mount Olive College. When I reflect on the small group who met to plan the dinner and then recall the success that was achieved, I appreciate in a far greater way the words of Dr. Robert Schuller who said "Enthusiasm is energy." Enthusiasm was indeed the key to success in Craven County.

The one weak point or disappointment to me, as county chairperson, was the fact that four of the churches in our county did not participate either through their giving or presence at the dinner. My prayer is that they may be moved to a greater commitment of service to the work of their denomination and that they will choose to join their denominational family in making the 1978 Dinner an even greater success.

The writer of the Book of Proverbs states "Where there is no vision the people perish." We in Craven County have a vision; a vision of what our College can be with God's help and our support, and a vision of what can be accomplished at our 1978 Dinner through the support of every Free Will Baptist Church in our county.

This is our prayer and this is our goal.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

Scripture Reading—Psalm 119:117

SAFER THAN IN
HIS ARMS

Some years ago at the great Keswick Convention in England, a brother said to the Rev. George Silwood, "Is it not blessed to be safe in the arms of Jesus?" "Yes," said Brother Silwood, "but I am safer than that." "Why," said his friend in astonishment, "how could you be safer than in the arms of Jesus?" "Why, I am as safe as an arm of Jesus," said the preacher; nor did he overemphasize this great and glorious fact, "for we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones."

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of us have sung the song, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus"? Do you feel safe in His arms? His arms are strong and protective that He may care for His children.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 18:10

"IT IS WELL WITH
MY SOUL!"

"Saved, Alone!" This was the cablegram which Horatio Gates Spafford, author of the hymn, "It Is Well With My Soul," received. It meant that his four children had gone down to a watery grave in mid-Atlantic, and that his wife only had been rescued. In his deep sorrow he was wondrously sustained by the God of all grace. Out of his sorrowing heart, he gave to the world the great hymn of assurance:

"When peace, like a river, attendeth
my way,
When sorrows, like sea-billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught
me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of you have a peace that passes all understanding? That peace comes from God Almighty. How many of you like the beautiful song, "It Is Well With My Soul?"

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 11:14

THE BASIS OF HIS FAITH

A friend questioned one of God's servants of the other years: "Mr. Mackenzie, you are a man to be envied: you know nothing of doubts and fears; you always enjoy the full assurance of hope." The old man replied at once: "Yes, yes, I understand you. Many a man speaks of my strong faith that does not know all it has to struggle with. But I shall tell you what my faith is. I am the emptiest, vilest, poorest sinner I know on the face of this earth. I feel myself to be so. But I read in His own Word that He heareth the cry of the poor, and I believe Him, and I cry unto Him, and He always hears me, and that is all the faith or assurance I have got."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Isn't it wonderful how the word of God can calm a man's soul and mind? He gives so much assurance to man.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 21:31

SURE OF HIS SALVATION

It is a long time since Herodotus described the little folk of distant Central Africa, but the Gospel has at last reached them. Miss Bell of the Africa Inland Mission describes one to whom she had often preached, asking him if he had at last received the words of God. "Yes, we have," he answered. "Every night we meet for prayer. We sing 'Jesus Loves Me' and 'What Can Wash Away My Sins?' and then call on God to protect us in the night." Miss Bell then inquired if he were sure that, on death, he would go to Heaven. The Pygmy stood at attention, hand at salute, and said, "When I die I go to God's village. I will salute, and say, 'Greetings, God. I am come to my house in Your village.' And when He asks me what permission I have to enter, I will tell Him that His Son Jesus Christ died for me and washed my heart clean in His blood. Then He will tell me, 'Enter; your home is waiting for you.'" Miss Bell's comment: "He was perfectly sure about his salvation—and so am I!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God said that He has gone to prepare a place for us in Heaven. What a glad day when we arrive!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 32:20

"ANY BRAINS?"

It is not at all uncommon in our day to meet people who insist that no intelligent person can accept what is not in complete agreement with human reason or what lies outside the realm of human experience.

Which reminds us of how an aged Quaker once confounded a young "rationalist." This young man declared: "I will not believe in the existence of what has never been seen; we are creatures of reason, you know." "Didst thee ever see France?" queried the old Quaker. "No, sir, but others have, and so my reason allows me to believe in its existence upon their testimony." Ah, thou wilt believe only in what thee or another hast seen." "That's it, you have my idea exactly." "Didst thee ever see thy brains?" "No, sir." "Didst thee ever see anyone who has seen them?" "No, sir." "Dost thee believe thee has any?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do we use our brains for God? Do we read our Bibles? Do we help our neighbors to know about Jesus?

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 1:5

HE CANNOT DENY HIMSELF

Spurgeon used to tell the story of an illiterate old woman who was a humble follower of the Lamb. A skeptical neighbor loved to poke fun at her, especially at the assurance she displayed regarding her own salvation. "How do you know that?" he asked. "God tells me so a hundred times," she answered, and then she quoted one promise after another, especially from John's first letter, the Epistle of Christian assurance, where the phrase, "We know," is used fourteen times in five short chapters. The question was then shot at her. "Suppose God doesn't keep His word?" Quickly she answered: "His loss would be greater than mine. I would lose my soul. He would lose His honor." She was right. Oh, we have a great God, a wonderful God! He cannot deny Himself.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God would never lose a soul. As in the parable of the lost sheep, He would seek constantly until He found it.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

Scripture Reading—Psalm 12:5

SAFE HIDING

When Martin Luther was in the throes of the Reformation and the Pope was trying to bring him back to the Catholic church, he sent a cardinal to deal with Luther and buy him with gold.

The cardinal wrote to the Pope, "The fool does not love gold." The cardinal, when he could not convince Luther, said to him, "What do you think the Pope cares for the opinions of a German boor? The Pope's little finger is stronger than all Germany. Do you expect your princes to take up arms to defend you—you, a wretched worm like you? I tell you no. And where will you be then?"

Luther's reply was simple. "Where I am now. In the hands of Almighty God."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God will never let any of His children go from Him because He loves them so and would do anything for them.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

MISSIONS

STATE CONVENTION MISSION RALLY A SUCCESS

I don't think we have ever had any more enthusiasm, than was shown this year. It really blessed my heart to see our people respond to the call for missions. Emotions ran high when a young deaf child told about being saved at our summer camp for deaf children. His sign language was interpreted by Mrs. Dale Albertson. I am convinced without a shadow of a doubt that there are no programs in all the world that can stimulate our spiritual and physical growth as much as an increasing interest in missions in the local church, and on the home and foreign fields. Our mission rally contributions this year were: Home Missions: $11,268.49, and Foreign Missions: $12,793.21, making a total of $24,061.70. May God bless you all for caring.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg, is looking for a full-time pastor. Anyone interested please contact Mr. Raeford Heath Route 1, Snow Hill, N. C. 28580; or phone 747-2252 after 6:30 p. m.

The Rev. Bill Gaylord is available for part of full time service. He may be reached by calling (night) Belhaven 943-2869 or by writing the Rev. Bill Gaylord P. O. Box 117, Pantego, North Carolina 27860.

Elwood Lane Free Will Baptist Church, Kannapolis, is seeking a pastor. Any interested ministers should contact Frank R. Marlowe, chairman of the pulpit committee at 718 Jack Street, Kannapolis, North Carolina 28081, or call after 4 p. m. weekdays or any time on weekends at (704) 932-5667.

Coming Events . . .

September—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Home Missions and Church Extension Month

September 30—Youth Convention, King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, 7:30 p. m.

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 3—Ordaining Council of Central Conference will meet 10 a. m. at the Press

October 4—Albemarle Conference, Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown

October 12—Western Conference, Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson

October 12—Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth

October 14—Cape Fear Sunday School Convention

October 14—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Horry County, South Carolina

October 18, 19—Eastern Conference, Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul

October 20-22—Fall Break, Mount Olive College

October 29—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention

October 29—Mount Olive Day in Local Churches

ATTENTION

The Ordaining Council of the Central Conference will meet October 3 at the Free Will Baptist Press at 10 a. m.

All persons having business with this Council, please attend this meeting.

NEWS & NOTES

Rose Hill Church
To Have Homecoming

Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 1. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m., followed by worship service at 11 a. m. The pastor, the Rev. N. Dan Beaman, will bring the morning message. There will also be a memorial service during the worship service for the deceased members. Lunch will be served at noon. All former pastors, members and friends are invited to attend.

Reedy Branch Church
Organ and Piano Concert

On Sunday night, October 1, at 7:30, Larry Jones and Donald Waters will present an organ and piano concert at the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville.

Larry is a native of Mount Olive and is well known for his ability as an organist. He will also be singing a song that he wrote about his personal experience with Christ.

Donald is minister of music at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville and is a great musician. He is also very capable at the organ.

Larry is owner of the Gallery Piano and Organ Company in Greenville Square and Donald is sales manager.

The program will consist of various types of music. It will not be a program of classical music but the hymns that you sing every day and enjoy listening to.

The pastor, the Rev. Willis Wilson, invites all to share in this time of inspiration.

Homecoming and Revival at
British Chapel Church

British Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Kinston, will be observing its homecoming services on Sunday, October 8. Revival services will begin on October 9 and continue through the 13. The Rev. Bobby Jones of Union Grove church will be conducting the services. The church cordially invites everyone to attend.

Union Grove Church
Announces Homecoming and Revival

Homecoming was held at Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Fremont, September 24.

The Rev. Earl Glenn of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Goldsboro will conduct a revival starting on September 25-29 at 7:30 each evening.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Revival Services
At Otway Church

The Otway Free Will Baptist Church, near Beaufort, extends a warm welcome to everyone to attend revival services September 25-29, beginning at 7:30 nightly. The visiting evangelist will be the Rev. J. T. Bailey from Wadesboro, North Carolina. There will be special singing nightly. The pastor is the Rev. James Kivett.

Crab Point Church Announces
Revival and Homecoming

Crab Point Free Will Baptist Church, near Morehead City, wishes to announce its fall revival and annual homecoming.

Open preparation for a heart-desired revival was a night of singspiration on September 24 by local church talent. Revival services are September 25 through September 29 beginning at 7:30 nightly. The guest evangelist is the Rev. Robert Cayton, the pastor of Kitt Swamp Christian Church. Singing is being provided by the church and local talent.

Homecoming will be observed on Sunday, October 1. The morning message will be brought by the pastor, the Rev. McDonal T. Bennett. Lunch will be served in the fellowship building following the morning service.

The pastor and the congregation invite everyone to attend these services.

Pleasant Plain Church
Observes Homecoming

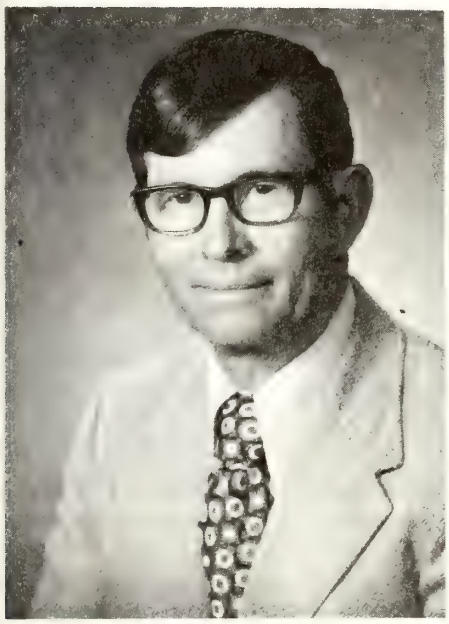
Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Selma, will observe homecoming on October 8. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m. The Rev. J. B. Godwin will speak at the 11 a. m. worship service. He is a member of the church and pastor of the Stancil's Chapel and Mt. Zion churches. The New Creations of Mount Olive College will render special music during the 11 a. m. service and the afternoon service. Lunch will be served at the fellowship hall at 12:30 p. m. In the afternoon services, there will be a memorial service for members who died during the year. There will also be an afternoon singspiration. The Rev. Raymond Sasser, pastor, has issued an invitation to all former pastors, members and friends to worship at Pleasant Plain church on this homecoming day.

Hugo Church
Announces Revival and Homecoming

Hugo Free Will Baptist Church announces its fall revival and homecoming services beginning October 2 and continuing through October 6. Hugo church is located on Route 2, Grifton, one mile east of Hugo. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Francis Garner, pastor of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church in Beaufort County. The

homecoming service will be held on October 8 with a picnic lunch being served in the fellowship hall. Everyone is cordially invited to attend by the members and their pastor, the Rev. Tom Miller Jr.

Hickory Grove Church Plans Fall Revival



Dewey Boling

The Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist Church, near Bethel, announces its fall revival for the week of October 2-7. The church is located on Highway 30, four miles east of Bethel, North Carolina.

The guest evangelist for the services will be the Rev. Dewey Boling, pastor of Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina.

Services will begin each evening at 7:45. Special singing will be rendered as a part of the services. The church pastor, the Rev. Hubert Burress, will be assisting in these services.

The pastor and the congregation will welcome your presence at these services.

Revival in Progress Grants Chapel Church

Revival is in progress through September 29 at the Grants Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Highway 55 near Seven Springs. The evangelist is the Rev. Frank Harrison of Mount Olive. The time of the service is 7:30 p. m. There is special singing each night. The pastor is the Rev. Emmitt E. Jones of Mount Olive. On September 29 at 6:30 p. m., there will be a fellowship supper at 6:30 p. m. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Robert's Grove Church Have Homecoming Day

Robert's Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, will observe homecoming-harvest day on Sunday, October 1. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. and worship services at 11 a. m. Mr. Byron Ray Jackson, a former member of the church from Jacksonville, will bring the homecoming message. Lunch will be served at noon. A memorial service will be held in the afternoon, followed by a singspiration time. The pastor, the Rev. A. B. Bryan, and the church congregation invite all former pastors, members and their many friends to come and fellowship.

Union Chapel Church Announces Revival

Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Middlesex, announces its fall revival beginning October 2 through October 6. The time is 7:45 p.m. The evangelist will be the Rev. Rudy Owens, pastor of Unity church, Wilson. There will be special singing each night. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Walton E. Parrish. Everyone is invited to attend.

Third District Sunday School Convention

The Third District Sunday School Convention of the Eastern Conference will meet Saturday, September 30, with the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilmington, at 10 a. m. The Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez, pastor of Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, will be guest speaker. Each church of the district is invited to attend.

Homecoming at Tee's Chapel Church

Homecoming will be observed at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, on Route 2, Smithfield, Sunday, October 1. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. with the Rev. Foy Futrell, a former pastor, preaching the 11 a.m. message. Dinner will be served on the grounds at noon. A singspiration is planned for the afternoon. The Rev. Billy Nowell is pastor and with the members extends a special invitation to all former pastors, members, friends and especially all singers to come and enjoy this wonderful day.

Revival at Tee's Chapel Church

Revival services will begin at Tee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Smithfield, on Monday night, October 2. Prayer service will begin at 7:15 with the Rev. M. E. Cox of the Baptist Road Cathedral church in Durham bringing the revival messages at 7:30 each evening. Special singing is planned each evening through Friday night. The pastor, the Rev. Billy Nowell, and the church extend a special invitation to everyone.

Homecoming and Revival At Northeast Church

The Northeast Free Will Baptist Church, Route 5, Mount Olive, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 1. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. followed with the worship service at 11 a. m. The pastor, the Rev. Fred Johnson, will bring the homecoming message. Lunch will be served at noon.

On Sunday night, October 1, revival will begin each night at 7:30 and will continue through Thursday night, October 5. The Rev. DeWayne Eakes of Lucama will be the visiting evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend.

Pleasant Grove Church Announces Homecoming

Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church, near Pikeville, will observe

(Continued on Next Page)

homecoming on October 1. Sunday school will be at 10 a. m., with Mrs. Mary Pelt, a former member, teaching the lesson. The Rev. Bobby Futrell, of Winterville, will preach the homecoming message at 11. A picnic lunch will be served at the church; in case of rain, other arrangements will be made.

Memorial services will begin at 1:30 with Becky Glover in charge. The Bob Wooten Singers of Goldsboro will present a program of testimony and song to conclude the service. The Rev. James Lupton is pastor.

Stony Hill Church Announces Homecoming and Revival

Stony Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Middlesex, will have its annual homecoming service, Sunday, October 1, 1978.

Dr. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, and former Stony Hill church pastor, will preach at the 11 a. m. worship service. A picnic lunch will be served in the church fellowship building at 12 noon with an afternoon song service.

The fall revival will extend from October 9 through October 13 with the Rev. T. C. Farmer from Weldon bringing the messages. There will be special singing each night.

Everyone, especially former members and friends, is invited to come and be in the Lord 's service.

White Oak Grove Church Announces Homecoming and Revival

The White Oak Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, LaGrange, announces homecoming on Sunday, October 1. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m. followed by worship services at 11 a. m. The pastor, the Rev. Calvin Heath, will bring the morning message. There will be a picnic lunch at the noon hour and following in the afternoon there will be a service of singing.

Revival services will be held at the White Oak Grove church beginning October 9 through October 13. The evangelist will be the Rev. Joe Ingram. The services will begin at 7:30 each evening. The pastor and the church membership invite everyone to take part in these services.

Pleasant Hill Church Homecoming and Revival

Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, near Grimesland, announces its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 1. Sunday school will be at 10 a. m. and worship services at 11 with the pastor, the Rev. Robert Rollins, bringing the message. There will be a singspiration in the afternoon with the Melody Makers and the church quartet. All former pastors and members are invited to attend.

On October 2 through 7 revival services will be each night at 7:45 with the Rev. Gary Bailey as guest speaker. Special music will be part of the service each night. The pastor and members invite everyone to attend these services.

Shady Grove Church Holds Revival

Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 5, Dunn, with the Rev. Cedric D. Pierce Jr., serving as pastor is one of the oldest churches in the state. This church will be the center for a great religious revival during the week of October 1 through October 6.



Joe Ingram

The Rev. Joseph H. Ingram will be the guest speaker. Mr. Ingram is Director of the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Programs, which currently has mission programs in India, Mexico, and the Philippines. Mr. Ingram of Goldsboro, North Carolina, is a graduate of Atlantic Christian College, Wilson, North Carolina. Prior to his current position, Mr. Ingram was pastoring Stoney Creek church in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Each night of the revival has been designated as a special night honoring various people, organizations, etc. These special nights are as follows: October 1, Neighbor and Friend Night; October 2, Pack a Pew Night; October 3, Youth Night; October 4, Sunday School Night; October 5, Community Organization Night; and October 6, Family Night. Special music will be featured nightly, according to Peyton Lee, director of music at Shady Grove.

The sermons will be a most interesting explanation of God's Word to the world. The public is cordially invited to attend each night. Sunday night's service begins at 7 p. m. and the remaining services begin at 8 p. m.

Central District Youth Convention, King's Cross Roads

The Central District Youth Convention will meet September 30 at King's Cross Roads church, near Farmville, at 7:30 p. m. All youth are invited to attend.

Annual Homecoming and Revival Moseley's Creek Church

Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church between Dover and Fort Barnwell will have its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 15. Sunday school will be at 10 a. m. Morning worship will be at 11 a. m. and a picnic lunch will be at 12:45 p. m. There will be afternoon services in the church with special singing by the Chapelleers from Chocowinity, North Carolina, and a special singing group from Pilgrim's Home Free Will Baptist Church.

Also the Rev. Bobby Brown, pastor of

the Wintergreen church, will be the speaker at the revival services beginning Monday night, October 16 through Saturday night, October 21. Services will be nightly at 8. Everyone is invited. The Rev. W. H. Willis is the pastor of Moseley's Creek church.

Sunday School Promotion Service
First Church, Kinston



Mrs. Irene Jenkins and Mrs. Clara Elmore

On Sunday evening, June 25, 1978, the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston, North Carolina, held its annual Sunday school promotion service. Stanley Jenkins, Sunday school superintendent, moderated the service and presented the evening address. In addition to the usual promotion certificates and perfect attendance pins, the Teacher of the Year was recognized. This year we were very fortunate and pleased to have a tie. Mrs. Clara Elmore and Mrs. Irene Jenkins were both recognized as Teacher of the Year. This award is based on objective data collected each Sunday. This data includes, but is not limited to, personal attendance record at Sunday school and church, starting class on time, starting lesson on time, proper notification of assistant teacher when absent, and personal example. Both teachers were very deserving of this award.



Mrs. A. C. Deaver

The highlight of the service was the honoring of Mrs. A. C. Deaver who retired this year after 38 years as a Sunday school teacher. Mrs. Deaver has been a devoted teacher and an immeasurable Christian influence on the lives of the children she has taught. In addition to the plaque and the deserved praise, Mrs. Deaver was joined at the front of the church by all those present whom she has taught. It seemed as though she was joined and embraced by half of the people present. When they all had gotten to the front, they ranged from eight years of age to ages some of them probably would appreciate us not mentioning. She will never be replaced, but her influence will be seen in her students for many years to come.

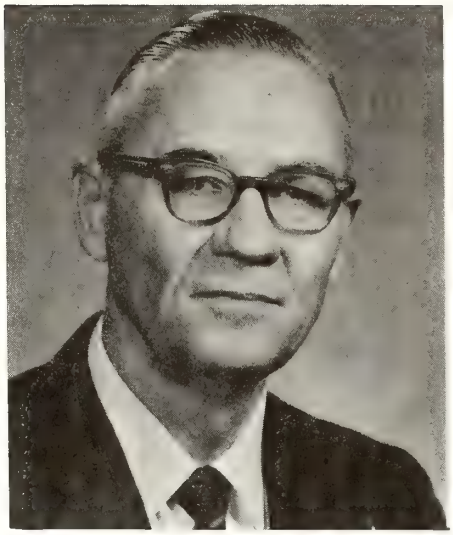
St. Paul Church to
Have Homecoming

St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church of Elizabeth City will observe homecoming on October 1. The church's pastor, the Rev. Melvin Moore, will bring the morning message. Lunch will be served at noon and will be followed by a singspiration in the afternoon. All members and former pastors are invited to attend.

Homecoming and Revival
First Church, Goldsboro

Homecoming will be observed at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, on Sunday, October 1. Dr. Michael Pelt, of Mount Olive College and a former interim pastor, will deliver the morning message.

Dinner will be served at noon. After lunch there will be a special memorial service for deceased members and an ordination service for Paul Howell as deacon. The service will conclude with a song service by the chancel choir.



C. L. Patrick

Revival services will be at the church starting Monday, October 2 through Friday, October 6. The evangelist will be the Rev. C. L. Patrick of Route 2, Walstonburg. Everyone is invited to attend. The Rev. Earl Glenn is pastor.

Homecoming and Revival
At Wooten's Chapel Church

Homecoming will be observed at Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Raleigh, on October 1. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. with the worship services at 11 a. m., followed by lunch on the church grounds at 12 noon. There will be singing in the afternoon.

Revival services will begin Monday night, October 2, and will continue through Friday, October 6 at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Gene Britt will be the evangelist. There will be special music and a nursery provided. The pastor, the Rev. J. B. Caton Sr., along with the church membership, extends a cordial invitation to everyone to join in worship and fellowship.

Homecoming and Revival
Kenly Church

Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, announces its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 1. The Rev. Joe Ingram will bring the morning message. The Rev. James Joyner is pastor.

Revival will begin on October 2 through October 6 with the Rev. W. Arthur Martin of Benson as evangelist. The time of the revival is 7:30 p. m. Everyone is invited.

MOC

WORKERS FOR 1977 CRAVEN DINNER



Pictured left to right: Harold Herring, J. T. Wilson, Marice DeBruhl, and J. C. Griffin.

Workers at the 1977 Craven County Dinner for Mount Olive College are, Mount Olive College Director of Development, Harold Herring; Steering Committee member, J. T. Wilson of Vanceboro; County Dinner Chairman, Miss Marice DeBruhl; and Steering Committee member, J. C. Griffin of New Bern.

The 1977 Craven County dinner was attended by the largest yet number of persons, raising more money than ever before.

"We, in Craven County, have a vision; a vision of what our College can be with God's help and our support, and a vision of what can be accomplished at our 1978 dinner through the support of every Free Will Baptist church in our county," said Miss DeBruhl.



The New Creations

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will sing at Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church outside Goldsboro on Sunday evening, October 1, at 7 p. m.

The New Creations' schedule will be published on a weekly basis as appearances are scheduled.

The 1978-79 students who will be singing and witnessing on the New Creations' team are: (front row from left), Wanda Russell from Sound View church in Newport; Lynn Richardson of Faith church in New Bern; Lynette Turner of Spring Hill church in Goldsboro; Tammy Williamson of Milbournie church, Wilson, Debbie Sharpe of Marsh Swamp church in Wilson; and Teresa Kelly and Sheri Slaughter, both from Newport and Holly Springs church.

Back row from left, are Chuck Moore of Havelock; Donnie Rose from Pinetops; Randy Caroon from Lowland and Mount Zion church in Vandemere; Mike Robbins from Lucama and St. Mary's church; and Craig Wells of Richlands and Mt. Zion church in Onslow County.

Absent when picture was made was Phillip Boykin of Wilson and Marsh Swamp church.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES VISIT IN HIGH SCHOOLS

Representatives from the Mount Olive College Admissions Office, Russell W. Duncan, Director; and Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director, will be visiting in the high schools listed below as part of the Post Secondary Opportunity (PSO) program.

The Mount Olive College admission's staff will be one of many colleges represented. They invite all Free Will Baptist students attending these high schools to come by for a visit and bring their friends.

October 2, 3	High Point High School Greensboro High School Guilford County Schools
October 4	Western and Eastern Alamance High Schools Hugh M. Cummings in Burlington Bartlett-Yancey High School in Yanceyville
October 5	Reidsville High School Rockingham County Senior High in Wentworth Madison-Mayodan High School Morehead City High School in Eden
October 6	Southern Alamance Graham High School

COLLEGE DINNERS SET FOR OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

The following County Dinners to benefit Mount Olive College have been scheduled in October and November.

As College Dinners are planned the information will be listed in the FREE WILL BAPTIST.

CARTERET COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 6:30 p. m., East Carteret High School, Reginald Styron and Nathan Garner, co-chairman.

CRAVEN COUNTY—Monday, October 23, 7 p. m., Sudan Temple, New Bern, Miss Marice DeBruhl, chairman.

GREENE COUNTY—Saturday, October 14, 7 p. m., West Greene School, Snow Hill, George Harrison, chairman.

JOHNSTON-WAKE COUNTIES—Monday, November 6, 7 p. m., Smithfield-Selma High School, Dallas Pinkham, chairman.

LENOIR COUNTY—Saturday, October 7, 7:30 p. m., King's Barbecue Restaurant, Kinston, Bobby Harrell and Stanley Jenkins, co-chairmen.

NASH COUNTY—Thursday, October 19, 7 p. m., Middlesex Elementary School, Barry Gardner, chairman.

ONSLOW-NEW HANOVER COUNTIES—Thursday, October 26, 7 p. m., Folkstone church, Leonard Hobbs, chairman.

PAMLICO COUNTY—Saturday, November 18, 6:30 p. m., Camp Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, chairman.

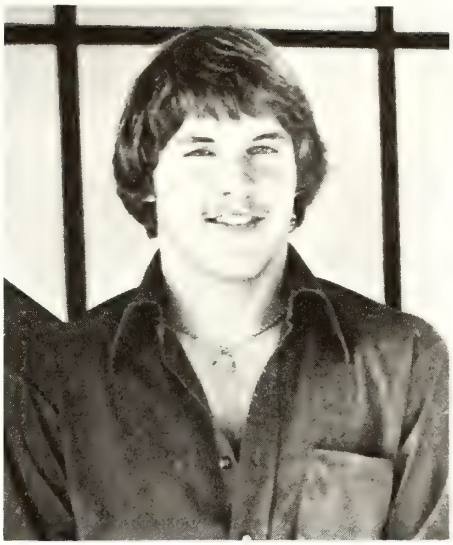
PITT COUNTY—Tuesday, November 14, 7 p. m., D. H. Conley High School, Gary Bailey, chairman.

WAKE COUNTY—Tuesday, October 17, 7 p. m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Miss Louise Edgerton, chairman.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Note: "Student of the Week" is a feature made available by the Mount Olive Tribune and run in cooperation with the Mount Olive College News Bureau.

Selection of "student of the week" is based on nominations submitted by Mount Olive College students and faculty members that are drawn at random from a nominations box.



Randy Jones

Eighteen-year-old Randy Jones from Pine Level is Mount Olive College Student of the week.

Randy graduated from North Johnston High School in May, before entering Mount Olive as a freshman this fall. He is planning to become a certified public accountant.

When asked what interested him in this major, Randy said, "My father is Executive Vice-President of a bank in Pine Level and when my sister started studying accounting, I listened to them talking and became interested myself."

While attending Mount Olive Randy plans to be very active in all intramural sports.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Jones of Pine Level. They are members of Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will preach the homecoming sermon at Stoney Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Nash County on Sunday, October 1.

The Rev. Robert Langley is pastor.

Never hurry for God's answer; but when you receive it, hurry to act.

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For October 8

REVERENCE FOR GOD

Lesson Text: John 4:24; Matthew 6:24; Exodus 20:3-7; Luke 4:8; Matthew 5:33-37
Memory Verse: Luke 4:8

I. INTRODUCTION

It is a troubled time anywhere when every man gives top priority to "doing his own thing." Much of the world is troubled now because authority is defied—the authority of home, school, police, state, and nation. God's authority is over all, and defiance of it is most disastrous of all. As we continue our study of Jesus and the Ten Commandments, this lesson brings us a sampling of what they say about respect for God.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Let the purpose of this lesson be to engender a greater appreciation for the person of God. He is more than an impersonal spirit; He has the qualities and characteristics of a personality.

B. Because God is a spirit, He cannot be seen with the physical eye, but He can be adored with spiritual insight, honored and served.

C. God demands the first place in our lives. This means that He must come ahead of **everything** else. If He does not get the first place, He will take no place.

D. Jesus in His reverence for the Father gave us an example of the way we should feel and act toward God.

E. There are many ways that one can dishonor God. Of course, all of us can think of the open, overt sins, but there are ways involving our thinking and feeling. Ask your class to help you think of some specific ways that we dishonor God.

F. Last Sunday's lesson was on the theme of Jesus and Old Testament law in general; today we begin a series on Jesus and the Ten Commandments. The text for today starts with Jesus' words and then goes back to the Old Testament statements of the law. The focus is on the deeper meaning which Jesus helps us find in the Ten Commandments. It also provides motivation for keeping the commandments.

G. In the Old Testament, the law is referred to as "the words of the covenant, the ten commandments" (Exodus 34:28); "the testimony" (Exodus 25:16, 21); "the tables of testimony" (Exodus 34:29); and "his covenant . . . even ten commandments" (Deuteronomy 4:13). In the New Testament they are spoken of as "the commandments" (Matthew 19:17). Later writers often speak of them as "the decalogue."

H. The Ten Commandments were placed upon two tablets of stone. These stones were "written on both their sides, on the one side and on the other were they written. And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables" (Exodus 32:15, 16). In Exodus 31:18 the words on the stone are described as "written with the finger of God."

I. We often say that Jesus is the interpreter of the commandments; but He does more than this. He seeks to instill in the disciples deeper values concerning the commandments than they had known before. Be sure to watch for this as we study each lesson.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Nothing can satisfy the boundless desires of the soul but God. Men toil for riches, honors, worldly goods, pleasure, and many other things that disappoint them after they are obtained. The tragic youth who is hooked on hard drugs thinks he finds pleasure in his "fix." For a time there is some physical and mental pleasure, but it does not last, and it is not long before another fix must be followed by still another. A great man once said, "Earth can never satisfy the infinite spirit of man." Only a right relationship with God can do that.

B. A little child became separated from her mother in a large department store. A kind saleslady took the child in charge and tried to comfort her with kind words and assurances until the mother could be located. But the child was only interested in her mother. There comes a time in the life of each of us when we want God. "Deep calleth unto deep." The soul cries out for the living God. How glad we ought to be that God is always ready to answer when we call upon Him in the reverence of His sanctuary or in the quiet of our home.

C. Just as the boughs and vines in the garden bend toward the rich rain treasures as they fall, just as the golden wheat sways before the enriching summer wind, so the truly great soul bows in reverence and humility in the presence of his God. In so doing he gathers new strength day by day and thereby learns the way of the victorious life.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Out of Respect—Two boys playing in a backyard were tempted to pick forbidden fruit from a tree. The boy of the family said, "My father said we are not to touch this fruit." His evil companion said, "You do not have to be afraid. You know your father is very kind and he wouldn't punish you for taking some fruit." The more thoughtful boy said, "That is the reason why I do not want to eat it. I know my father would not punish me for doing that, but it would hurt him very much if I were disobedient." The best reason for obedience to God is the fact that God loves us and would be hurt if we disobey.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

Scenes of the Sixty-Sixth Annual Session of the State Convention

of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina

SEPTEMBER 13, 14

CUMBERLAND COUNTY MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA



The Rev. and Mrs. Taylor Hill serve at the Information Center.



Ministers register for the session. The Revs. J. Stewart Humphrey, Ray Wells, Fred Johnson, among others.



Mrs. Elizabeth Hill, Mrs. Hattie Mae Everton, the Rev. Dale Albertson, and an unidentified delegate at the Free Will Baptist Press display area.



Dianne Riley is seen conversing with delegates in front of the Mount Olive College display.



Story Corner

CANAAN AT LAST

THE journey from Egypt had been a long one. The caravan of Hebrews had wound round over the desert instead of coming straight to Canaan. At last they were so near the border that one more day would put them into the land they had been promised.

It would seem by this time they would have enough faith and trust in God to go ahead without questioning. But there were some who easily forgot the miracles they had seen. These people would not believe God. They talked among the people. "We should not go into this strange land without first sending spies. How do we know what is there? Suppose there are monsters who will destroy us. Suppose the kings of the land have heard we are coming. They could have their armies lying in wait for us. We would walk right into a trap and all be killed. How do we know the land is good? If it is like the land we have traveled in from Egypt, it is not worth a fight." These are some of the things said in the Hebrew camp.

God told Moses to choose a man from each tribe to spy out the land.

These men went over the boundary and traveled all over Canaan. They saw the good grasslands which would feed their flocks. They saw the rich crops which were grown there. They saw, from a distance, the cities. There were high walls around them. These people were high live in tents, but in houses.

Ten of the men were frightened by what they saw of the cities. The walls would be hard to attack. But what really frightened them was that they had seen men's heads above the wall! They thought these men were giants who could stand on the ground and still be taller than the walls!

Since they did not go into the cities, they did not know that the walls were no more than thin walls. They were rows of flat-roofed rooms. These guards walked up and down the wall as lookouts. But they were not giants. They were walking on the roofs!

The spies returned to the camp after more than a month. Two of them, Joshua and Caleb, stopped to pick some fruit to take back. They wanted to show the Hebrews that the land was rich and would grow wonderful food.

When the Hebrews saw this fruit they were very surprised. They had never seen such large fruit. They were eager to go on into Canaan to set up their homes. But the stories of ten of the spies spoiled this.

"The land is rich. The crops are the finest we have ever seen. But the cities have high walls around them. We cannot attack such walls! And most dangerous of all are the people! They are giants! We would look like grasshoppers to them!"

Caleb and Joshua tried to reason with the people. But the people grew angry. They were angry with Moses for bringing them so far, telling them they would be able to take this wonderful land for themselves.

Caleb and Joshua tried to get them to have faith in God. If He had stopped the Red Sea for them to cross, surely He could cause them to capture the land.

These people would not listen! They had become an angry, crying mob. Even Moses and Aaron could do nothing with them.

They wanted to kill Caleb and Joshua. They probably would have killed Moses. Some wanted to choose a new leader and go back to Egypt.

But God stopped them!

A bright light flashed from the cloud over the tabernacle. The people were stunned. They quieted down. God spoke to Moses, "I have had enough! I am ready to destroy all these people. They complain and are wicked! They do not remember how I have cared for them. They forget too easily the miracles which have saved them. They cannot trust Me. They are not worthy of My love!"

Moses begged again for God to forgive the people.

God promised not to destroy them at once. But He would not agree to let them capture Canaan.

"None of these who have seen My power and miracles and still do not trust Me to weaken the armies of Canaan shall ever be allowed to live in the land. I will not go with them into battle. These people must wander around in the desert until all these are dead. Their daughters and sons will be allowed to capture the land, for I will make them strong enough to fight.

"Joshua and Caleb will outlive the rest. They have faith and shall be allowed to live in Canaan."

The people were sorry. But this time God would not change His mind. Time after time He had forgiven them. Time

after time Moses had begged for them, and God had listened to Moses.

This time Moses knew it would do no good to beg. God was really angry. So he did not beg God to let them capture the land.

Since God had been so good and had forgiven them so many times, some of the Hebrews thought they would only have to say they were sorry and they would be forgiven again.

A group of men gathered and told Moses, "We are sorry we had so little trust in God. But now we believe He will keep His promise. He said long ago that He would go before us and weaken these people, so we are going on to capture the land He has promised us.

Moses tried to stop them: "What are you doing? The Lord has turned away from you. Yours sins caused it. You did not keep your promise to trust Him, so He will not go into battle with you. You will all be killed."

They paid no attention to Moses. "God has always saved us. He will again. He says we are a special people. He will not let us die."

They wanted to take the ark with them into battle as they stormed the nearest city. This way they figured they would take God's Spirit with them, and the enemy would magically fall before them. Moses would not let them take it.

These men did not dare carry the ark themselves. Only the priests could do this and live. The priests obeyed Moses and would not carry the ark into battle.

So they marched on without it. They did not get very far. The army of the people of Canaan had somehow heard of them and met them at the border of Canaan.

The battle did not last long. The Hebrews were not soldiers. They had little training for battle. It was easy for the training army of Canaan to destroy them. Every one was killed.

After this the Hebrew people realized that God really meant it when He said they would not be allowed to take Canaan. They resigned themselves to the fact. The must wander around in the desert for forty years before God would allow them to settle in Canaan.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

Woman's Auxiliary

CAPE FEAR WA CONVENTION FIRST FWB CHURCH GOLDSBORO, N.C.

The Cape Fear Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet with the First Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina on October 11. The theme will be "We Are His Workmanship." The Scripture will be Ephesians 2:10. The scheduled program as follows:

Morning Session

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, Mrs. Susan Corbett
10:20—President's Remarks
—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call
—Appointment of Committees
11:00—Congregational Hymn, "I Am Thine O Lord"
—Children's Home Report
—Special Music, Host Church
—Worship Offering
11:30—Convention Message, Mrs. Rachel Duncan

Afternoon Session

1:00—Congregational Hymn, "Glory to His Name"
—Auxiliary History and Life Membership Award, Mrs. Ruth Warrick
—Special Music, Host Church
1:30—Reports:
—Mount Olive College
—Home Missions
—Foreign Missions
—Free Will Baptist Press
—Cragmont
—Superannuation
2:00—Business Session
—Closing Hymn, "Take the Name of Jesus with You"
—Adjournment
—Benediction

WESTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARY HOLLY SPRINGS CHURCH

The Western District Auxiliary Convention will meet on October 4, at the Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly. The theme will be "Joy of the Lord." The Scripture is taken from John 15:11. "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." The program is as scheduled:

Morning Session

9:15—Registration
9:45—Hymn, "He Keeps Me Singing"
—Devotion, Mrs. Harding Ballance, Holly Springs Church
—Welcome, Mrs. Jonas Hinton, President
—Words of Joy, Mrs. James Joyner, Kenly Church
10:15—Hymn, "Ring the Bells of Heaven"
—Bringing Joy to the Lost, Mrs. Mark Taylor
—Special Music, Local Auxiliary
—Joy of Our Youth
—Greetings from Mount Olive College, Dianne Riley
—Special Offering for College Hall
11:00—Hymn, "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"
—Make a Joyful Noise, New Creations, Mount Olive
—Convention Offering
—Message, Dr. W. Burkette Raper
12:00—Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:15—Song, "I Have the Joy, Joy, Joy"
—Devotion, Mrs. Frances Radford, Spring Hill church
—Joy in the Mountains, Cragmont Time
—Sharing Our Joy Through Benevolence, Mrs. Nadine Crocker, Mt. Zion church
—Business Session
—Closing Hymn
—Benediction

NOTICE

The State Convention Executive Committee will meet at 10 a. m. on September 28 at the Holiday Inn, Smithfield, between I-95 and 70-A.

Gary Bailey, Secretary

a happy way to worship and learn

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SING THEIR PRAISES
NOW,

FOR THEY CANNOT
READ THEIR TOMBSTONES

WHEN THEY'RE DEAD. . . .

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Cover Photo by Camerique

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OCTOBER 4, 1978

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THE REWARD OF PRAISE

"If you think that praise is due him,
Now's the time to slip it to him,
For he cannot read his tombstone
when he's dead."

—Berton Braley

Although the above verse may not be familiar to most of us, we have heard and read similar injunctions numerous times. Most often the quotation has been paraphrased, "Give me (him) my (his) roses while I (he) live (lives)." The advice is good; the encouragement is direly needed.

Somewhere in an old New England manuscript was found a saying which further supports the need for commendation and the issuance of such. "Just praise is a *debt* and should be paid."

The payment of praise is sometimes a mere word or some phrase such as, "That's good," "I like that," or "Fine job!" Those of us on the listening end, whether or not we personally merit the acclamation or actually have it projected toward us, can derive vicarious pleasure—someone else's feeling of accomplishment at having tried and succeeded at something.

It isn't necessary for us to make grand slams to be worthy individuals. Every one of us can do something that nobody else can do. Every one of us can do at least one thing *better* than another person. For some individuals it's smiling in a special way; for others it's putting a lilt in the voice; for others it's expressing an easygoing manner which puts one at ease in the face of troublesome circumstances.

All persons, then, have attributes in varying degrees. All persons deserve praise, and all are capable of giving it—though the "giving" capacity is more defined and developed in some than in others. Personalities enter in. All people cannot (and should not) be gushy complimenters. Compliments sometimes lean toward *flattery. Commendations* connote more favorably and should be more appreciated than the overstated and injudiciously ascribed "Excellent!"

There are occasions, yes, when "Excellent" is merited; and the acknowledgement should be forthcoming. A person should not be afraid to voice approval; neither should one be afraid to accept it. A wise man once said that it takes *as much grace to receive as to give.* The application is certainly valid here.

In a lot of situations *mere courtesy* is all that is required of us. A nod of the head, momentary eye contact, a wave of the hand—these gestures and non-verbal communications still convey the message: "I know you're there. You have some worth." Few of us would deny that acknowledgement of some kind is necessary for our sense of well-being.

All praise is not expected, nor should it be. A *little* is wanted; perhaps a *lot* is needed. And the giver of praise has his own reward at making someone feel better and helping him understand that his efforts did not wax fruitless.

At the end of day—yea, even at the end of life—one is able to reflect upon that which has preceded. One can appraise for himself assets of love and friendship. Whether they be priceless or worthless depends upon personal evaluation. One decides for himself his willingness to accord honor to those who deserve it. One decides for himself the manner in which he proposes to bestow that honor.

The message haunts us, nonetheless: ". . . he cannot read his tombstone when he's dead."

Submitted by Linda D. Hawley

WHICH ROAD WILL WE TAKE?

I would like for you to visualize something with me if you will. Picture, in your mind, one road we're all coming down the same way, as lost sinners, but some of us decide a better way of life, so we see a "fork in the road." Imagine one of them going upward and the road we are on continuing straight. We can label the road going upward as the "High Life" and the road continuing straight as the "Low Life." We have to choose which kind of living we prefer, but they are both costly in their own way.

We know that when we go on a trip up north or on freeways, we come to a "toll gate" and we have to pay a price or fee before we can go through or pass by. The two roads we are going to notice have two major differences. The location of the "toll gates" is different and the destination that awaits us at the "end of each road" is different.

We can see that the "Low Life" has an advantage in that it offers a very popular payment plan. In this modern day, especially as we see prices soaring, an easy payment plan is very important to most of us. Some businesses have a 90-Day Plan—Same As Cash, a 12-Month Plan, a 36-Month Plan, or just about any kind we desire. The road labeled "Low Life" has a plan called **"Go Now—Pay Later!"** We go all the way through life living as we please, but at the end of life's road we see the "toll gate" and we must pay the price, (we're paying later—but we're paying), eternal damnation in the "lake of fire." We may get drunk the night before and paint the town. The headache doesn't come until the next day, **but it comes!** We may tell one lie or one hundred lies before anyone finds out we're lying, but the people **do find out!** People then lose all trust in us. We may cheat a business out of hundreds of dollars over a period of years and think that jail for us is far in the future and for some maybe never, but yet the **fear of going to jail comes!**

We've talked about what happens on the road labeled "Low Life." Let's see about the road labeled "High Life." This road offers a payment plan not as popular. This payment plan is **pay as you go!** There is quite a difference in this payment plan from the one we have already talked about. We see the road going upward, but we see a "toll gate" at the beginning of the road. We must stop and pay before we can go any further. We toss aside lying and stealing and we can then have a moral and wholesome reputation. We also toss aside alcoholic drinks even though we may fear rejection, but in the end we gain respect from those that we were afraid would reject us.

Now that we've talked about both roads we can travel, let's see the final results for having traveled or not having traveled one of these roads.

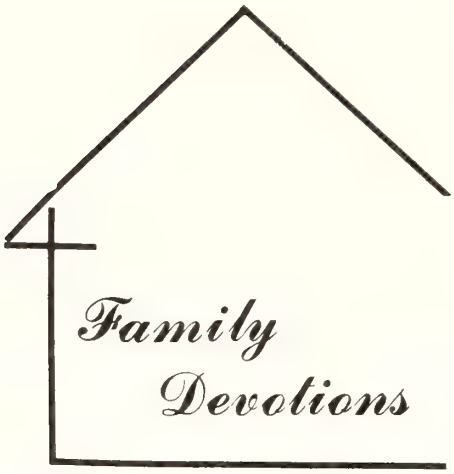
We may make a big "splash" here on this earth doing all the so-called "in things," but the biggest splash we're ever going to make is the "final splash" in the "lake of fire."

On the other hand, God has given each one of us a gift of eternal life. We don't earn this by high living—it's a gift. But one thing to notice—this gift is not given to one who spends his whole life showing that he prefers the "Low Life." It's a gift for those of us who love the "High Life."

A story was told of a discontented elderly man who spent all of his life looking for happiness and wealth. One day he was watching a Christian and he said, "I'd give the world to be as happy as you are!" The Christian smiled and replied, "That's exactly what it costs!"

Finally, I'd like for all of us to notice one thing. When we go in a grocery store and buy a can of peaches that costs $1.50 and then when we get home and find only a few little slices of peaches in the can, we realize that we've paid too high a price and received too little in return. Let's ask ourselves this question—"Do we pay too much for too little?" Do we pay a high price for living the worldly way and in the end, when we cash in our worldly premiums, we find that they have no value or no place in Heaven and we've daily paid a high price for something that can only buy us a front row seat in the "lake of fire"?

(Taken in part, from: International Sunday School Lessons)



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

Scripture Reading—Luke 12:32-34

"HE LEFT IT ALL!"

A famous millionaire died of cancer. For weeks he suffered intolerable agony. Although surrounded by every luxury and receiving every possible care, he died as wretchedly as a pauper. There was the usual publicity, flowers, telegrams, an expensive bronze casket, and a towering beautifully carved tombstone. After the funeral a relative turned to another and said, "How much do you suppose that Harry left?" Back came the reply, "He left everything he had." Yes, Harry could take not one thing with him. He worked harder than a slave would. He grasped, saved, cheated, lied, and where legally possible, he stole, as he amassed his great fortune. He faced God without hope or plea. Harry was a poor fool. "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Are you storing up treasures in this world or in the world to come? Surely you cannot take anything with you; you have to leave everything behind. So be wise and store up treasures in Heaven.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

Scripture Reading—Exodus 20:3-17

WRONG ORDERS

Some years ago a passenger train was rushing into New York as another train was emerging. There was a head-on collision. Fifty lives were lost. An engineer was pinned under his engine, frightfully injured, and tears were running down his cheeks. In this dying agonies he held a piece of yellow paper crushed in his hand, and said: Take this. This will show you that someone gave me the wrong orders."

Unregenerate men and women will stand before the Great White Throne and point to their Modernist preachers, saying, "Someone gave me the wrong orders!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

From whom do you take orders? When you follow orders, be sure they are correct, There are no rules of order more correct than those given in the Bible.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 25:12

A HARDENED HEART SOFTENED

A gentleman saw a boy thief in his flower garden. He went forth quietly in a roundabout way to meet the boy and, coming up behind him, laid his hand on the boy's shoulder, saying: "Now, my boy, answer me one question: Which is the best flower in my garden?" The boy, finding no escape, looked around and after a few minutes' pause, said, "That rose is best," as he pointed to a beautiful moss rose. The gentleman, still keeping one hand on the boy's shoulder, reached out his other hand and, plucking the rose in all its beauty, gave it to the boy. As he released him he said, "There take it, my boy." The boy was amazed. Looking into the face of his strange benefactor, he said, "Ain't you going to have me punished, sir?" "No," was the reply: "but as I am going to give you the best flower in my garden, you will never steal again from my flower beds, will you?" "Never, sir, as long as I live," was the emphatic reply; "but, please, sir, ain't there some little errand I can do for you?" Free forgiveness and a token of love had won the hardened boy's heart, and from that hour he was the willing servant of his friend.

PRAYER THOUGHT

In many instances kindness as a retaliation for an offense obtains better results than anger and revenge.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 22:1

WHOM GOD LOVES BEST

When the small daughter of the distinguished sculptress, Sally James Farnum, was asked which child was her mother's favorite, the little girl, according to Francis Newton in *This Week*, promptly replied: "She loves Jimmy best because he's the oldest; and she loves Johnny best because he's the youngest; and she loves me best because I'm the only girl!" It would be difficult to find anything which could more lucidly explain God's all-enveloping love for His children. No matter to what heights you have risen or to what depths you have fallen, God loves you best because of some characteristic personal quality which, while it may not be apparent to your fellowmen, is known and cherished by your Heavenly Father.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Does your Heavenly Father find it difficult to cherish a personal quality of yours? Maybe you should try to acquire a good quality.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

Scripture Reading—Psalm 37:29

BANKBOOK OR ACCOUNT BOOK?

A woman, working as a housekeeper, sent $300 to the mission in the Sudan. She had received this sum as a legacy. Later, after her death, relatives, who had regarded her as being overreligious, and had had very little to do with her, came to her funeral, and asked for her possessions. They went through her trunk looking for a book, evidently a bankbook, for she had been long employed at good wages. The little book they found was quite a different one, and told its own story. On the one

side she had entered her wages, month after month, and on the opposite side, following the small amounts of her expenditures, were such entries as these: "For Bible woman in India, $50." Turning over the pages to the date she had received her $300 legacy, they found opposite it, "Paid out for the Sudan, $300." She needed no executors; all had been administered right up to date. Someday we will wish we could produce such a book in the presence of Him to whom we must all account for our stewardship.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Start your savings account in Heaven. You may need to fall back on it sooner than you think.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Scripture Reading—Matthew 12:25

SEEING—AND BELIEVING

Two children were playing on a hillside, when they noticed that the hour was nearing sunset, and one said, wonderingly: "See how far the sun has gone! A little while ago it was right over that tree, and now it is low down in the sky." "Only it isn't the sun that moves; it's the earth. You know, Father told us," answered the other. The first one shook his head. The sun did move, for he had seen it, and the earth did not move, for he had been standing on it all the time. "I know what I see," he said triumphantly. "And I believe Father," said his brother. So mankind divides still—some accepting only what their senses reveal to them, the other believing the Word of God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Our hearts are so hardened because they are ruled by our brilliant, learned minds which have become so scientific that anything that cannot be clinically explained just cannot be at all.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Scripture Reading—Philippians 2:3

A BLESSING OR
A HINDRANCE?

Marion was a selfish girl. Her own clothes, her own good times, and her own ambitions filled her life until she met the Lord Jesus. Even after she was saved, no one in her family noticed much change in her for some time. She did want to witness for Christ, but most of her thought was still for herself, so her family thought that Marion's religion was only one of her idiosyncrasies. But only two years later Marion surrendered her life unreservedly to the Lord. Soon after, she said: "I am ashamed of my past. I wanted to be a blessing to my family, yet I can see I've been almost as selfish since I was saved as I was before. I think it's my fault that they're not interested in the things of the Lord. Pray that I may really let my light shine for Christ at home and be willing to do more than my share for His sake." Just a few weeks after this her younger sister said to her one night, when they were preparing for bed, "I want to be a Christian like you are." Marion had really begun to live for Christ, and was she happy!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do people long to pattern their lives after ours, or do they feel that if we are an example of a Christian they would rather not become one?

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans' Press.

MISSIONS

YOUTH ON THE MARCH!



Youth Group

In response to the challenge to youth groups in the August publication of **Command** concerning the education of the Baker children, the Youth Fellowship Auxiliary of Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, embarked on an effort to raise the $185 needed for a correspondence course.

The Fred Baker family are our candidates for the Philippine missionary field. Our youth felt a desire to supply this need, just a small part to support foreign missions.

Plans were made and organized to conduct a walk-a-thon. A 12 mile route was chosen through the Clayton community countryside. With much prayer and preparation the youth proceeded to obtain pledges for each mile.

On September 2, 1978, the walk-a-thon took place. After several hours of walking, talking, laughing, and good fellowship the Trinity Youth had walked 12 miles for their Lord and met their goal. What a short journey for a worthwhile cause! All the credit and praise for accomplishing this task goes to our Lord and Saviour.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg, is looking for a full-time pastor. Anyone interested please contact Mr. Raeford Heath, Route 1, Snow Hill, N.C. 28580; or phone 747-2252 after 6:30 p. m.

The Rev. James Warren of Kinston, North Carolina, would like to announce that he is now available for a full-time church. Mr. Warren will be glad to come to any church and conduct a trial sermon. He is a member of and in good standing with the Eastern Conference. He can be reached by calling 527-1648 or writing to him at 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

ATTENTION

The next meeting of the Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline will meet October 9, 1978, at 10 a. m. at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, North Carolina.

SLOW DOWN AND LIVE

by Mrs. Hersel Bowen

Have you ever seen such a busy time as we are living in today? I won't admit I'm getting old, but I will say I am just getting weaker in the legs. You may say, "I stand on the 'wayside' watching the people go by. I think often of my mother (God rest her soul). I think how she used to cook the best dinners. All the children were around eating, talking, laughing. Oh, what a joyous time we used to have at these gatherings! Now if families all get together it's most likely in a restaurant with someone else doing the cooking and serving. We cannot go into a public place and pull some of the funny things we did in our home. People might ask us to leave. Yes, we had a good time at our mother's table. She made us have good manners, that's true. We were so thankful for the food and for a mother that understood that haste makes waste of a child. We seldom hurried over a meal. This was a family time for joy, and sometimes we also shared sorrow. Time to us meant each other's good welfare. I wish I could slow us down a little. We miss so many things in life, we have really taken for granted things will go as is—but as September comes in, it makes me think of the great harvesttime. We are harvesting our crops now. We must get them in quickly or a storm may come and tear them down. The fields are ready. Are we? The crops will all be out of the fields soon and then winter will come.

This to me is like life; we plant good or bad seed in our families' lives. Are we too busy to make a home? Do we just build us a house to keep our families out of the weather? Do we use restaurants more than we use our own kitchens? Do we stay in our cars after work to go some place more than we stay in our homes? Is this really good for us, to be always on the go? You or I may say, "I work all week. I'm going to enjoy the weekend." How about the little ones who see Mommie and Daddy just a very few hours out of the twenty-four? There is something about home that is so different from the noisy places where we seek pleasure. The family field may soon be ready for harvest. Have we helped to prepare them? God will come to reap His harvest. I pray that the sin storm of life will not overtake any of us. Will we, as parents of the home be the cause of the falling down of the children because we are so busy making a living that we have forgotten to make a life? Beware when God says, "I want your son or daughter," because He will take them. It is true that parents cannot make a Christian of a son or daughter, but we can set the example before them. Only Christ can save. Where are we taking our children? Someday the ripe Christian will be harvested. The field of life shall be over, here upon this earth. I pray none of our families will be the wasted sinner left in the field to perish forever. Take heed lest we hurry ourselves into a bleak way of life. Christ took time for us, yet it was short upon this earth as a man. Thank God Christ lives forever. When our time comes to be harvested, I pray that all our families will be ready for that beautiful day, that great harvest day, to be with the Lord Jesus Christ forever. May we as fathers and mothers never walk too far apart in rearing our children. Do not say things we cannot erase. A child will bring it to our minds one way or another.

May I add Emery Petho's words:

The man is the brace and ceiling of his house.
He is the straight walls rising from the earth.
The woman is the golden glow of lamps
The firelight on a hearth
A man to the home is a sheltering roof.
A wind break, refuge from storm and rain.
A woman is the warm, bright scarlet flower
Beyond the window pane.
Their children are the sun and rays that sweep
Through open doors—a blessed thing so good
Trinity on earth that makes a home
Where once a mere house stood.

NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to thank my many friends for their prayers during my recent illness. I will have to re-enter the hospital in a few weeks. Please, everyone continue your prayers for me, because if it could be God's will, I want to get able to carry on His work.

H. Paul Jenkins

Coming Events . . .

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 4—Albemarle Conference, Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown

October 9—The next meeting of the Revision Committee of the Statement of Faith and Discipline, 10 a. m., Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden

October 12—Western Conference, Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson

October 12—Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth

October 14—Cape Fear Sunday School Convention

October 14—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Horry County, South Carolina

October 18, 19—Eastern Conference, Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul

October 20-22—Fall Break, Mount Olive College

October 29—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention

October 29—Mount Olive Day in Local Churches

WESTERN CONFERENCE BOARD OF ORDINATION MEETS

The Western Conference Board of Ordination meets October 11, at 10 a. m. at Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama. Ministers or churches having business with the Board are invited to attend this meeting.

Clyde Cox, Chairman
De W. Eakes, Clerk

OCTOBER IS SUPERANNUATION MONTH.

Cragmont Bulletin

"The Mountaintop Experience"

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, N. C.

CRAGMONT NEWS

Progress Report—Cragmont Main Building



Joists for First Floor Being Put in Place

The construction of the Cragmont Main Building is progressing very nicely. The pictures show the foundations being poured, the basement wall laid, and the joists for first floor being put in place. Work on the recreation area of the basement has been delayed because of having to wait for the steel. However, this has not affected the overall construction of the building. The workers will continue with the framing of the first and second floors on the other half of the building. The block-work on the chapel, which is on first floor, has also begun.



Basement Wall Laid

The weekend retreat phase of the camping season has been going real well. The number in each group has increased over last year, and there are more "first-timers" attending this year.



Foundation Being Poured

On August 18-20, Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church brought 18 campers. Elwood Lane Free Will Baptist Church brought 35 on September 2, 3. The next weekend, September 8-10, Friendship Free Will Baptist Church brought 51 campers. There were 51 campers also from the Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church on September 15-17. We are very thankful each group came to Cragmont. It seems each group had a wonderful time in the Lord while here. Each weekend until the end of October is still booked.

Please continue to support us through your finances and prayers. We are so grateful for each pledge of support we have received in the past. May God bless all of you.

In His Service,
Rev. Douglas Skinner
Manager and Promotion Secretary

NEWS & NOTES

Eighty-Third Session
Eastern Conference

The eighty-third annual session of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will convene at the Macedonia Free Will Baptist, Church, Ernul, North Carolina, October 18, 19. The scheduled program is as follows:

WEDNESDAY MORNING

9:00—Registration, Ministers, Delegates, Visitors
10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Don Gray
10:10—Conference Called to Order, the Rev. Bill Futch
—Welcome to Macedonia, the Rev. Walter Sutton
—Response, the Rev. A. Graham Lane
10:20—Moderator's Message, The Rev. David W. Hansley
10:30—Roll Call of Ministers, Receive Church Letters
—Recognize and Welcome Visitors
10:45—Report of Camp Vandemere, Inc.
—Receive Camp Vandemere Offering
10:50—Report From Children's Home and Retirement Homes
10:55—Appointment of Committees
11:10—Worship Service, Praises in Song
—Receive Conference Offering
—Introductory Sermon, the Rev. Carol B. Hansley
12:00—Lunch, Fellowship Time

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

1:15—Devotions, John Clark
1:25—Partial Report of the Credentials Committee
—Seating of the Delegates
1:30—Report of the Executive Committee
—Report of the Examining Board
2:00—Report of the North Carolina Board of Superannuation
2:05—Report from the General Conference
2:10—Report from the North Carolina State Convention
2:15—Report from the North Carolina Ministerial Association
2:20—Report of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
2:25—Report from the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary Convention
2:45—Report from the Church Finance Association
2:50—Miscellaneous Business
3:15—Recess Until Second Day

THURSDAY MORNING

9:30—Registration, (For those not yet registered)
10:00—Devotion, the Rev. Bobby Brown
10:10—Read and Approve Minutes of Previous Day
—Roll Call of Ministers Absent Wednesday
—Receive Church Letters Not Already Turned in
10:30—Report from Cragmont Assembly, Inc.
10:35—Report from Eastern Conference Mission Board
10:45—Report from North Carolina State Mission Board
10:50—Report from North Carolina State Church Extension Board
10:55—Report from Mount Olive College
11:00—Worship Service, Praises in Song
—Conference Offering
—Conference Sermon, the Rev. Chris Singleton
12:00—Lunch, Fellowship Time

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

1:15—Memorial Service, Memorial Committee
1:30—Final Report of the Credentials Committee
—Final Report of the Examining Board
2:00—Committee Reports
—Leagues
—Sunday School
—Temperance
—Resolutions
—Digest
—Finance Committee, Committee Chairman
—Treasurer's Report, Conference Treasurer
—Nominations
—Election
3:00—Miscellaneous Business
—Read and Approve the Minutes
—Installation of Officers and Committee Members
3:15—Adjournment, Closing Hymn, Benediction

MODERATOR, the Rev. David W. Hansley
ASSISTANT MODERATOR, the Rev. T. Bruce Dudley
CLERK, the Rev. Bill Futch
TREASURER, Mrs. S. Woodrow, McCoy
MEMBER-AT-LARGE, the Rev. A. Graham Lane

Mt. Tabor Church
Has Homecoming

The Mt. Tabor Free Will Baptist Church, Creswell, will observe its annual homecoming October 8, with Sunday school at 10 a. m. The Rev. Sheldon Howard of Mount Olive will deliver the homecoming message. The noon meal will be served in the fellowship building. There will be a time for singing in the afternoon. All former pastors and members of the church have a special invitation.

Owen's Chapel Church
Homecoming and Revival

Owen's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Elm City, will observe its annual homecoming, Sunday, October 8. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. followed by worship services at 11 a. m., with the Rev. Noah Brown, a former pastor, bringing the morning message. Lunch will be served after the worship service on the church grounds. An afternoon singing has been planned.

Revival services will begin Monday

night, October 9-14. Services will begin each night at 7:45. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Eddie Franks from Clayton. The church and the pastor, the Rev. Swade Benson, extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend.

Revival at
Watery Branch Church



Harry Jones

Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Stantonsburg, will have revival services October 9-13 at 7:45 p. m. The Rev. Harry Jones, pastor of Russell's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. A. G. Smith, and members ask for prayers and invite everyone to attend.

Black Jack
Revival and Homecoming

Revival services will begin on Sunday night, October 8, and continue through Friday night, October 13, at the Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Greenville. On Sunday night, services will begin at 7 and the following nights, services will begin at 7:30. The Rev. Floyd B. Cherry, pastor of the Pine Level Free Will Baptist Church, will be the evangelist. The church extends a cordial invitation to everyone to attend.

Homecoming services will be held on Sunday, October 15. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m., followed by the worship service at 11 a. m., with Mr. Cherry, who was a former pastor of the church for more than sixteen years, bringing the morning worship message. After the worship service lunch will be served on the church grounds. A singspiration will begin at 1:30 p. m. featuring local talent from the community.

Otter's Creek Church
To Have Revival

Revival services will be held at Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, near Macclesfield, beginning on October 9-13 at 7:30 each evening. The visiting guest speaker will be the Rev. Don Fader of Kinston. He will be assisted by the Rev. Ralph Aycock, the pastor. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy some good gospel preaching. There will be special singing rendered each night.

Spring Hope Church
Revival in Progress

Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church announces revival in progress through October 7. Prayer rooms open at 7:15 p. m. Worship services begin at 7:30 p. m. with the Rev. Charles Richardson from the Smyrna church. The pastor, the Rev. Livingston Jones will assist him. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is invited to come and worship.

Christian Chapel Church
Revival in Progress

Christian Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pink Hill, announces its fall revival, October 2-6. The Rev. Kemery Ard is the guest speaker. He is from Clayton. The Rev. Norman Ard is the pastor.

First Church, Warsaw
Revival Services

Revival services will be the second week in October (9-13) at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Warsaw. The Rev. Emmitt E. Jones of Mount Olive will be the evangelist. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. Mickey Whitfield, and the church invite everyone to attend. Mr. Whitfield is also from Mount Olive and a former student of Mount Olive College.

Elm Grove Church
Homecoming and Revival

Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Ayden, will celebrate its annual homecoming on October 8. All friends of the church are invited to attend. The pastor, the Rev. Gary M. Bailey, will bring the morning message.

The revival services for Elm Grove will begin on Monday night, October 9, and will continue through Friday night, October 13. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The Rev. Leon Grubbs, pastor of Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church, will be the guest speaker.

The church membership invites everyone to attend both the homecoming and revival services.

Homecoming Day at
Grimsley Church

Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church, near Maury, will observe its annual homecoming on October 8. The Rev. Don Fader is pastor of the church. Lunch will be served on the grounds. There will be an afternoon singspiration. All former members, pastors, and friends are invited to attend.

Homecoming Day
Mount Zion Church

Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Roper, North Carolina, will observe its annual homecoming on October 15. The Rev. Charlie Overton is pastor. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. Morning worship service will be at 11 a. m. with the pastor bringing the morning message. Lunch will be served on the church grounds at noon. An afternoon service will begin at 1:15 p. m. with a memorial service for deceased members. There will also be a singspiration. Everyone is invited.

(Continued on Next Page)

Revival at
Friendship Church

Friendship Free Will Baptist Church announces its fall revival to be held October 9-14. The church is located at Route 1, Farmville, North Carolina. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Royce Reynolds is evangelist. The Rev. Walter Reynolds is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend. There will be special singing each night.

Faith Mission
Fall Revival



Alton Howard

Faith Mission of Leland will have its fall revival October 16-20. There will be special singing each night. On the 20th there will be a fellowship supper. The Rev. Alton Howard of Catalpa Mission of Fayetteville will be the evangelist. Everyone is invited.

Western Conference
Calvary Church

The ninety-second annual session of the Western Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will meet at the Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, corner of Woodard and Deans Streets, Wilson, on October 12. The program is as follows:

Morning Session

9:30—Devotions, the Rev. Howard Scott
9:40—Welcome, the Rev. Dewey Boling
—Response, Floyd Newsome
—Roll Call of Ministers, Clerk
—Roll Call of Churches, Clerk
—Recognition of Visitors, Moderator
—Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. F. A. Rivenbark
—Business Session
—Partial Report of the Credentials Committee
10:45—Report of Foreign Missions, the Rev. Joseph Ingram
—Report of Home Missions, the Rev. Ray Wells
11:15—Song Service
—Offering
—Special Music, Host Church
11:30—Conference Message, the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry
12:00—Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:00—Devotions, the Rev. William L. Dale
1:10—Report of Children's Home, the Rev. Stewart Humphrey
—Report of Retirement Homes, Inc., the Rev. Stewart Humphrey
—Report of Mount Olive College
—Report of State Convention, the Rev. Robert May
—Report of Board of Ordination
—Report of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
—Report of Superannuation Board
—Report of Cragmont Assembly
—Report of Camp Vandemere
—Report of Executive Board
—Report of Church Finance Association
—Report of Temporary Committees
—Report of Ministerial Character Board
—Final Report of Credentials Committee
—Report of Treasurer
—Final Business Session
—Closing Devotions, the Rev. Luther E. Bissette
—Adjournment

Song Leader, the Rev. Royster Martin
Pianist, the Rev. Clyde Cox

Homecoming and Revival
Winterville Church

Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, will observe homecoming on October 8. The Rev. Bobby Futrell, pastor, will deliver the message. After dinner on the grounds (or fire station in case rain) a singspiration will be at 1:30 p. m. It will feature the Trinity Trio, Miss Judy Dail, and Mrs. Guyla Evans. All the the local groups from the church will also sing. All former pastors, members and friends are invited to attend.



Harold Jones

The Winterville church also announces its revival services for October 9 through October 13 at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Harold Jones, a former pastor, will be the evangelist. Special singing each night will include The Psalms on Monday, Ayden Liberty Quartet on Tuesday, Pleasant Hill Quartet on Wednesday, The Gospel Chargers on Thursday, and The Tarboro Quartet on Friday. A warm welcome is extended to everyone to attend these services.

MY PRAYER FOR THEE

The Lord preserve thy going out,
The Lord preserve thy coming in;
God send His angels round about
To keep thy soul from every sin,
And when thy going out is done,
And when thy going out is done,
And when thy coming in is o'er,
When in death's darkness all alone,
Thy feet can come and go no more,
The Lord preserve thy going out
From this dark world of grief and sin,
While angels standing round about
Sing—"GOD PRESERVE THY COMING IN!"



ADMISSIONS OFFICERS VISITING HIGH SCHOOLS

Russell W. Duncan, Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College, and Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director, will be visiting in the following high schools as part of the Post Secondary Opportunity program.

All Free Will Baptist students attending these high schools are invited to visit and bring their friends.

October 9-12— Rowan County Schools
Mooresville High School
Statesville High School
Iredell County Schools
East Burke High School
Freedom High School

October 13— Central Cabarrus High School
Concord Senior High School

MRS. RILEY TO SPEAK

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker at Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, on Sunday, October 8, at the 11 a. m. worship service. The Rev. Royce Reynolds is pastor.

She will also appear as guest speaker at Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, on Sunday evening, October 8. The Rev. Billy Yawn is pastor.

SIXTY-FOUR CHURCHES HAVE STUDENTS AT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

We would like to salute the following Free Will Baptist churches which have students enrolled at Mount Olive College this fall.

COUNTY	CHURCH	PASTOR
Beaufort	Dublin Grove	
	Sidney	Charles Parrish
	Smyrna	Charles Richardson
Bladen	White Oak	Ransom McAbee
Carteret	Faith	J. B. Starnes
	Holly Springs	Jerry Rowe
	Sound View	Gurney Chase
	Welcome Home	Sam Weeks
Columbus	Beaverdam	Jackie Godwin
Craven	Bridgeton	Owen K. Arthur Jr.
	Oak Grove	Jimmy Webster
Duplin	Beulaville	Chris Singleton
	Cabin	William Littleton
	First, Warsaw	Mickey Whitfield
	Sandy Plain	Don Venable
Durham	Sherron Acres	Jeff Scarborough
Edgecombe	First, Tarboro	O. B. Jones
Greene	Free Union	C. L. Patrick
	Friendship	Walter Reynolds
	Grimsley	Donald Fader
	Howell Swamp	Joseph Lehmann
	Hull Road	Leon Grubbs
Halifax	Community	T. C. Farmer
	Dawson's Grove	Kenneth Carter
Johnston	Everett Chapel	Billy Yawn
	Hopewell	Dallas Pinkham
	Johnston Union	
	Pine Level	Floyd Cherry
	Piney Grove	Charles Renfrow
	Pleasant Plain	Raymond Sasser
	Rains Cross Roads	Edmundo Gonzalez
	Yelverton Grove	C. M. Coats
Jones	Whaley's Chapel	Andrew Hill
Lenoir	Deep Run	Adrian Grubbs
	Hugo	Tom Miller Jr.
	LaGrange	Carlton Lucas
	White Oak Grove	Calvin Heath
Martin	Rose of Sharon	N. B. Barrow
Onslow	Mount Zion	Harold Swinson
Pamlico	Mount Zion	Buddy Sasser
	Rock of Zion	Ray Williamson
Pitt	First, Greenville	Davie Brinson
	Winterville	Bobby Futrell
Richmond	First, Rockingham	Walter Carter
Wake	Friendship	Dwight Chapman
Wayne	Casey's Chapel	Ed Miles
	First, Goldsboro	Earl Glenn
	Indian Springs	Ronnie Hobgood
	Northeast	Fred Johnson
	Spring Hill	Bill Dale
	Stoney Creek	Bobby Bazen

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St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For October 15

THE SACREDNESS OF LIFE

Lesson Text: Matthew 5:21-26; Exodus 20:13; 1 John 3:11-15
Memory Verse: Romans 13:10

I. INTRODUCTION

As these lines were being written, a man was begging to be killed. Almost daily the newspapers carried stories of his plea or demand. Twice he tried to kill himself with drugs, but was frustrated. This man had been convicted of murder and had been sentenced to death. He urged the authorities to carry out the sentence, but they were loath to do so.

Against the will of their client, his lawyers secured stays of execution. Appeals were made to higher courts, to the governor of the state; but none of these authorities saw any reason to overturn the judgment. When this was being written, the sentence of death still stood, but execution was delayed.

This illustrates the deep concern for life that is felt by decent and responsible people. The underworld may have its cruel and greedy moguls who who do not hestitate to "waste" a rival or a "squealer," but upright people naturally want to save life rather than destroy it.

"Cowards!" This was the word of the condemned man mentioned above. He charged that the authorities lacked the courage to carry out the law. That charge was not necessarily true. Of course it is a fearful thing to take the life of a fellow human being, and anyone may well shrink from such a responsibility. But there are other reasons to hesitate. For one thing, "death is **permanent**." There is no way to retract it if later investigations show that there was error or false testimony in the trial. Many people wonder if the law has a right to take what it cannot give. Perhaps deeper than any of these considerations is the simple human compassion that longs to help, not to destroy. Ironically, such compassion can result in horrible cruelty as a condemned man is held in the death cell month after month, torn between hope and despair.

The sophistication of our time brings increasing problems of life and death. Of course every law-abiding person abhors murder; but is it murder to give a fatal dose to one who lies helpless, tortured with pain, and beyond all hope of recovery? Must we use an iron lung and artificial heart to keep the blood circulating when the brain has ceased to function; and if not, who is to decide when to turn off the machines?

These questions and others probably will be debated for a long time, and perhaps will never have answers that satisfy all of us. Certainly this lesson will not bring us final answers to all questions. But all of us who are Christians are concerned about what God says, and this lesson will bring us some thoughts from His Word.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Scriptures for today's lesson have been selected from the Gospel of Matthew, the Book of Exodus, and John's first epistle.

B. In this particular chapter of Matthew, Jesus distinguishes between the Law of Moses and the new law, given by Himself. God had told Israel, **Thou shalt not kill**. Jesus shifts the emphasis from a prohibition of killing to control of the heart and mind, for such things as murder come out of the heart (Matthew 15:9). He challenges His disciples to love their enemies instead of hating them. This is the positive approach to Christian living.

C. The Sixth Commandment, in Exodus, states, **Thou shalt not kill**. There is no elaboration, no indication of a penalty connected with violation of this commandment, either in Exodus 20:13 or in Deuteronomy 5:17; the penalty is given elsewhere.

D. In the first letter of John, the apostle of love, he admonishes Christians to fulfill the new commandment according to the standard given by Jesus: ". . . as I have loved you, that ye also love one another" (John 13:34). Love must actually be shown through kindness, compassion, and mercy.

E. It is difficult not to lose respect for human life when one is constantly exposed to its cheapness. The American people see killing nearly every night in their own living rooms. Many church groups speak out against the violence on television, but very little comes of it. The morning paper also reminds us of the cheapness of human life in our society.

F. The impact of this exposure is hard to measure. The United States Surgeon General has reported, "Viewing agression can instigate subsequent agression among observers." Writing about children's reaction to an especially violent movie, a critic for a national newspaper said they "giggled, cracked jokes, and applauded. They had evidently been desensitized, were without empathy or compassion toward the characters, and one couldn't help wondering how much the current landslide of violence on TV has had to do with it. . . ."

G. In our lesson, we see how Jesus felt about the Sixth Commandment. He did not come to destroy any of the commandments, but He did expand upon them and give them more practical applications than had been known in the Old Testament. In our day, when so many things in our society tend to make life seem cheap, Jesus' attitude toward

the commandments: **Thou shalt not kill**, is of special interest.

H. Jesus gave both the negative and the positive sides of the Sixth Commandment. Not only we are not to kill, but we are not to hate or speak evil of our brother. Does this go further than the Sixth Commandment? Not really; it is preventive. If one does not hate or speak evil of his brother, he is not likely to kill him.

I. Does the Sixth Commandment exclude capital punishment? We do not think so. Capital punishment was given a long time before the law (see Genesis 9:6). Is there any indication in the New Testament that it was ever repealed?

J. Does the Sixth Commandment exclude wars? Some feel that it does, and give it as a reason for becoming pacifists. But there are many places in the Old Testament where men are commanded to go to war. And nowhere in the New Testament are soldiers commanded to leave the army. Think what our country might be today if none had fought to keep our freedom.

K. John, the apostle of love, tells us that the highest level of living is to love all men, especially those who are of the household of faith. The other levels that John mentions are indifference, murder, and hatred. Jesus not only taught men not to kill, but also to love others.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 11)

COUNTY	CHURCH	PASTOR
	Union Grove	Bobby Jones
	Walnut Creek	Robert Fader
Wilson	Aspen Grove	Hubert Burress
	Calvary	Dewey Boling
	Daniels Chapel	D. C. Hansley
	Little Rock	DeWayne Eakes
	Marsh Swamp	A. B. Chandler
	Milbournie	John Williams
	People's Chapel	
	Rosebud	Bruce Steadman
	Saint Mary's	Leslie Hawley
	First, Wilson	Clyde Cox
Out-of-State	Colquitt, Georgia	

Yes, it sounds good to say we have students from sixty-three churches, but that is only one-fourth of the Free Will Baptist churches in North Carolina. Our on campus enrollment this year is 331, but think how this enrollment would grow if each church not now represented would have at least one student to attend Mount Olive next year. Such representation within itself would add another 200 students to our enrollment!

High School Day will be Saturday, November 11. We encourage you to begin now making plans to bring all the high school seniors from your church to visit us, but if you cannot come to Mount Olive, why not invite us to visit you?

Write or call the Admissions Office today for an appointment!

W. Burkette Raper,
President

DR. PELT TO SPEAK

Dr. Michael Pelt, Chairman of the Humanities Division at Mount Olive College, will speak at Milbournie Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson County, on Sunday, October 8, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. John Williams is pastor.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, near Greenville, on Sunday, October 8, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

COLLEGE DINNERS SET FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

The following county dinners to benefit Mount Olive College have been scheduled in October and November. As College Dinners are planned the information will be listed in the FREE WILL BAPTIST.

BEAUFORT COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 7 p. m., Chocowinity High School, Oscar Webster, chairman.

CARTERET COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 6:30 p. m., East Carteret High School, Reginald Styron and Nathan Garner, co-chairman.

CRAVEN COUNTY—Monday, October 23, 7 p. m., Sudan Temple, New Bern, Miss Marice DeBruhl, chairman.

DUPLIN COUNTY—Saturday, November 4, 6 p. m., East Duplin High School, William E. Futch, chairman.

GREENE COUNTY—Saturday, October 14, 7 p. m., West Greene School, Snow Hill, George Harrison, chairman.

JOHNSTON-WAKE COUNTIES—Monday, November 6, 7 p. m., Smithfield-Selma High School, Dallas Pinkham, chairman.

LENOIR COUNTY—Saturday, October 7, 7:30 p. m., King's Barbecue Restaurant, Kinston, Bobby Harrell and Stanley Jenkins, co-chairmen.

NASH COUNTY—Thursday, October 19, 7 p. m. Middlesex Elementary School, Barry Gardner, chairman.

ONSLOW-NEW HANOVER COUNTIES—Thursday, October 26, 7 p. m., Folkstone church, Leonard Hobbs, chairman.

PAMLICO COUNTY—Saturday November 18, 6:30 p. m., Camp Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, chairman.

PITT COUNTY—Tuesday, November 14, 7 p. m., D. H. Conley High School, Gary Bailey, chairman.

SAMPSON, HARNETT, CUMBERLAND COUNTIES—Thursday, November 16, 7 p. m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, chairman.

WAYNE COUNTY—Tuesday, October 17, 7 p. m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Miss Louise Edgerton, chairman.

WILSON COUNTY—Tuesday, November 21, 7 p. m., Beddingfield School, James B. Hunt Sr., chairman.

PRESS OPENS NEW STORE

Monday, September 25, marked the grand opening of the Kinston Bible and Bookstore, 123 North Queen Street, Kinston, North Carolina. This store (formerly Janie's Christian Book Store), the newest branch store of the Free Will Baptist Press, will offer to Kinston and the surrounding area the same services as the other Bible and bookstores owned by the Press.

Mrs. John (Happy) Taylor, the new manager, assisted by Mr. Simon Sitterson, mayor of Kinston, cut the ribbon. The Rev. Walter Reynolds, Manager of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc; Mr. Richard Whaley, Lenoir County Commissioner; the Revs. James Hardee, Hubert Burress, and C. Felton Godwin, board members; Mr. Harold Hardison, State Senator and member of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees; along with other interested parties were present during the proceedings.

The new store is eager to serve. Phone 527-2843 between the hours of 9:30 a. m. and 5 p. m. for customer service.



L-R, The Rev. Walter Reynolds, Mrs. John (Happy) Taylor, Mayor Simon Sitterson, and Commissioner Richard Whaley prepare to cut ribbon.



Customers browse.



The Rev. Hubert Burress (fourth from left) offers prayer of dedication.



General interior scene of store.

Auxiliaries in Action

PRESIDENT OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE CONVENTION TO SPEAK



David C. Hansley

David C. Hansley, recently elected President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, will bring the morning message for the worship hour at the Pee Dee Woman's Auxiliary Convention on Saturday, October 7.

ALBEMARLE DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention will meet with the First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, on Thursday, October 12. The theme will be "Walking in the Light." The Scripture is taken from 1 John 1:7: "But if we walk in the Light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sins." The program is as follows:

Morning Session

9:30—Registration
10:00—Hymn, "Heavenly Sunlight"
—Devotions, Mrs. Ellaree Radcliffe
10:15—Welcome, Mrs. Mary Miller
—Response, Mrs. D. H. Furlough
—Recognition of Ministers and Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
—President's Remarks, Mrs. Lula Daw
10:30—Reading of Minutes
—Roll Call of Auxiliaries
10:40—Mission News
—Offering for Home and Foreign Missions
10:55—Hymn
11:00—Children's Home Report
—Offering for Children's Home
11:20—Special Music , Host Church
11:30—Message, Miss Caroline Castelloe
12:00—Lunch

Afternoon Session

1:00—Hymn, " 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"
1:05—Memorial Service, Mrs. Ellen Jones
—Prayer
1:15—Mount Olive College Report
1:30—Other Denominational Reports
2:00—Business Session
—Committee Reports
—Treasurer's Report
—Announcement of Next Convention
2:20—Installation of New Officers
—Benediction

FREMONT CHURCH LUNCH AND HARVEST SALE

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Fremont Free Will Baptist Church, Fremont, will be sponsoring a lunch and harvest sale on Saturday, October 14, at the Fremont Elementary School. Lunch will consist of fried chicken and chicken pastry. It will be served from 11:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. An auction will begin after lunch and bazaar items will be on sale throughout the day.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

WE BELIEVE:

1. That there is only one God who is infinitely perfect, the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the Universe; that His eternal existence is in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; that all three are equal, but distinct persons. They are the divine Trinity.

2. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God; that He was born of the Virgin Mary; that He died for man's redemption; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as our intercessor.

3. That both, the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, were given by inspiration of God, and that they only constitute the infalible rule of faith and practice.

4. That man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation and stands guilty before God and separate from Him.

5. That is the privilege of all men to be saved; that God desires the salvation of all; that the gospel invites everyone; that the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

6. That the human will is free and self-controlled; that is is possible for a person who has been saved by divine grace to make shipwreck of his faith and become lost. The person (believer) who through grace perseveres unto the end of life has promise of eternal salvation.

7. That sanctification is initial at regeneration and continues progressively through the Christian experience, becoming final and complete in heaven.

8. That there are three gospel ordinances to be perpetuated under the gospel teaching: baptism by immersion, the Lord's Supper, and washing of the saints' feet.

9. That tithing is God's financial plan for supporting the work of the church here on earth.

10. That our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who ascended on high, and sits at the right hand of God, will come again; that there will be a resurrection of all men at the last day; that they which are saved will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they which are lost unto the resurrection of damnation; that the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." This is the final judgment.

OBSERVE

SUPERANNUATION MONTH

IN

YOUR CHURCH

October was designated by the State Convention as "Superannuation Month" in our Free Will Baptist Churches.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT YOUR SUPERANNUATION PROGRAM?

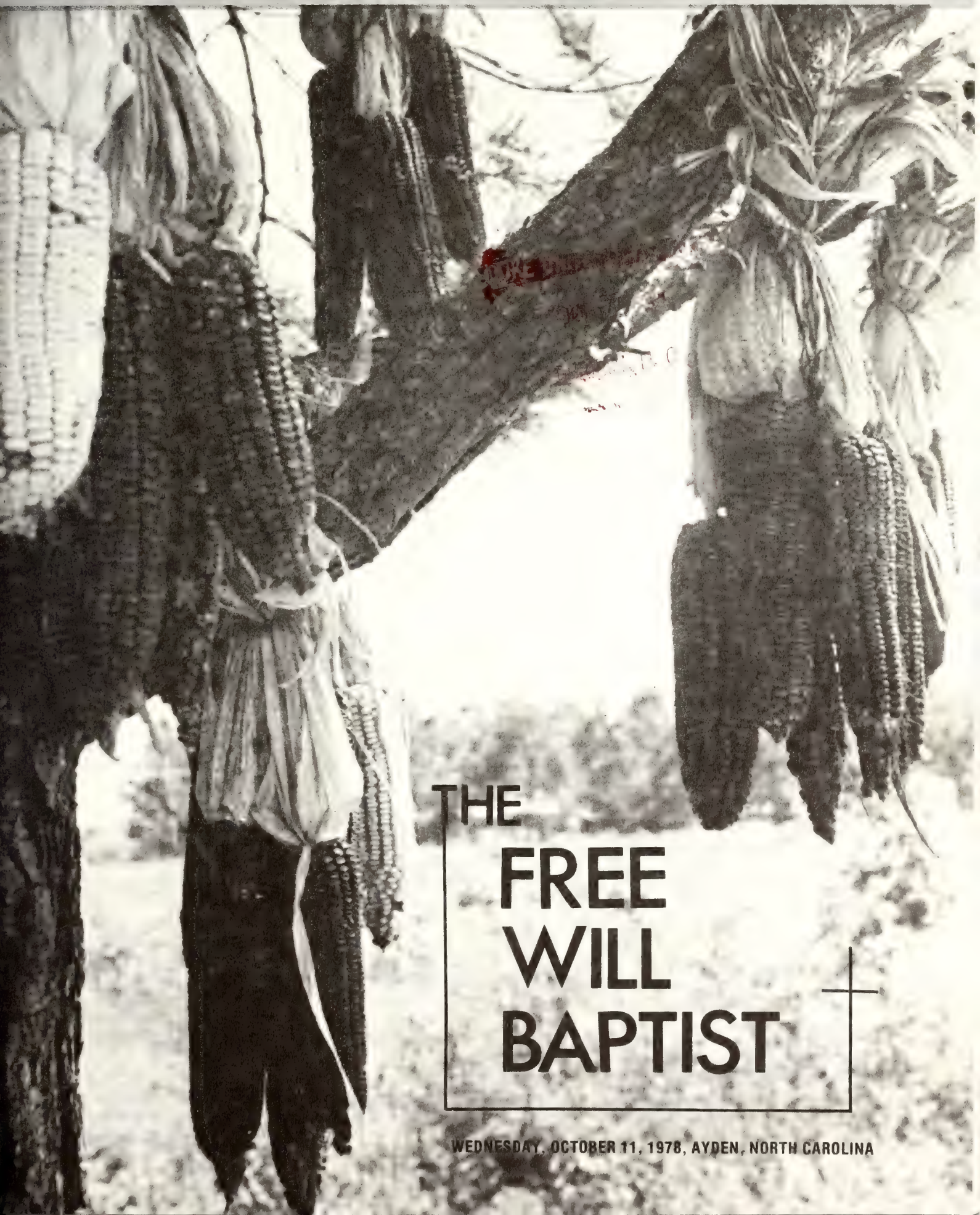
1. Receive a Special Offering during October, or
2. Send a Special Gift from Your Treasurer, or
3. Urge Special Individual Gifts, and
4. Remember the Program with Your Prayers and Gifts Throughout the Year.

SEND YOUR GIFTS TO:

NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF SUPERANNUATION
P. O. Box 474
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA 28513

"THE HARVEST IS PAST, THE SUMMER IS ENDED. . ." (Jeremiah 8:20).

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THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Cover Photo by John Taylor

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The Rev. C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

This is not really an editorial in the accepted sense of the word; let us consider it as a personal greeting to readers of this paper and let it be the means of reaching you with some important suggestions.

But first, let me explain why I am here in the editorial department of the Press.

The editor of literature, Mr. Tommy Manning, is on leave of absence for further educational pursuits and has asked me to serve as acting editor for about ten weeks. This is a challenging opportunity for me, and with genuine sincerity I hope to do my best to carry on here until Mr. Manning returns.

As acting editor it will be my responsibility to make the bottom line approval on all manuscripts sent in by our many writers, do whatever editing necessary on articles sent in for **The Free Will Baptist**, and work with the printing department in whatever manner needed.

Speaking of editing articles, please keep in mind that what you send to us may require some changes both in content and grammar, as well as making certain adjustments to fit the space available in the paper. But in no case will there be any changes that will alter the essence of your material.

Your materials should be given to us on time if you want them published when they should be. The paper states: "seven days prior to the publication date of that issue." Don't be offended if we cannot run them when desired, especially if they are late coming in.

We will do our best to publish material as it comes in, but it must be understood that certain items, such as important church meetings, convention programs, and the like, will take priority over materials that could just as easily be run a week or so later. The final decision on these matters will be left to the acting editor, as it always has been with Mr. Manning and other editors before him.

This paper has a long history and has served our people well. It should always be meaningful and useful to our people, and we can certainly thank God for the good work our present editor, Mr. Manning, is doing. Already—this is my first day at his desk—I have come to appreciate his responsibilities more than ever!

My prayer is that you will help me do no less a good job than he has done.

I would appreciate it!

C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

by Taylor Hill

MORE GOVERNMENT, LESS FREEDOM

I am not going to attempt to name dates and places nor quote Scriptures in this article. First, I want to say that I believe that I am a true Original Free Will Baptist. My heritage goes back to three of our oldest churches: the McLawhorns of the Little Creek church, the Grimsleys of the Grimsley church, and the Taylors and Hills of the Hull Road church.

In all the frustrations of modern day changes and doctrines, I have found it to be increasingly important for me to stop and think on who I am, and what is my true nature and belief. I have spent many years being confused and frustrated because of all the modern scholars who are saying that this is the right way to do things in order to achieve success.

I suppose the one thing that has bothered me most is that I have not been able to compete with certain other leaders in attracting large numbers of people. They usually claim the greatest success while I find myself expressing disapproval of their tactics and doctrines.

When I moved to Fayetteville, North Carolina, fifteen years ago, there wasn't a church of my denomination to attend; however, I thought surely I could find contentment in a church somewhere in the area, but I could not. I loved and appreciated all the other Christians that I met, but I just did not seem to fit into their way of doing things. I soon accepted the fact that I had inherited an extremely powerful inner feeling and nature that I could not ignore, and that is what I want to bring to our attention at this point.

Beloved, I think that most of us will agree that the greatest achievement in life, other than salvation, is to be able to live in peace. After many years of being tossed around and frustrated by others who have come on the scene, but are not true Free Will Baptists by nature; I have become both furious and more determined than ever to stand by what our forefathers and mothers risked their lives for.

There was a time around two hundred and fifty years ago and earlier, when there were people on foreign soil who believed that God's people should be able to exercise the freedom of the will when it came to religion. These people pulled up stakes and crossed treacherous seas on small sailing ships, risking their lives to carve new homesteads in a foreign wilderness in search for freedom of religion; I consider myself to be a descendant of those people.

During my lifetime, I have seen practices that are foreign to our original beliefs creep into our midst and have already brought havoc with many of our original customs and beliefs that were held dear to our founding fathers. I think I can sum it all up in just two words and that is **more government**. We know that a certain amount of government is imperative for the church; but we must also remember that too much government is what our forefathers were getting away from when our denomination was founded.

I take pride in the fact that all of my involvement in my church and denomination is a matter of personal choice and that our churches enjoy the right to be self-governed.

Some people will say that we need more and more binding government but may I call their attention to the contrary. Oh yes, we hear all the time that our loose operations have caused us to lose churches and have stunted our growth.

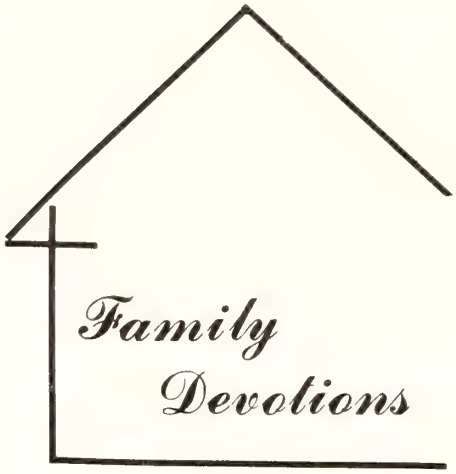
Well, let us look at the other side of the coin. Regardless of all of the other church movements that have exploited us, we are still around and will be until Jesus comes. I will be the first to admit that we Original Free Will Baptists have suffered many things, and our traditional ways that hinge upon trust make us extremely vulnerable to those who would take advantage of us; but as for me, I am willing to take a certain amount of risk rather than see our free will rights of choice taken away. When a person is bound, he is not free, We must be careful to always maintain and preserve our individual and church freedom of choice as much as possible when new rules are being introduced.

I cherish our heritage, and I sincerely believe that our old original freedom of choice will become more and more appreciated by Christians throughout the world as more and more government gradually creeps in and the pressures of life become even greater.

We started out with something good: let's not foul it up anymore by relinquishing our trust and respect for one another. More government simply means more control and less freedom.

A man from Holland told me just recently that he was amazed at all the many different churches and denominations in our country. Then a happy and proud feeling came all over me as I explained to him that these privileges are a major part of our American freedom.

I am proud to be a Free Will Baptist and take pleasure in conveying the message of human rights that was so nobly expressed in the lives of our forefathers and mothers. I do not mind being different in this respect because I believe it shows mutual respect and is right in the eyes of God.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Scripture Reading—Romans 3:22

THE LESSON OF THE MEAT CHOPPER

The American Magazine once published an article giving a businessman's statement of why he knows there is a God. He had been frankly facing the wonders of the stars and planets, their system and order; then he said, "It takes a girl in our factory about two days to learn to put the seventeen parts of a meat chopper together. It may be that these millions of worlds, each with its separate orbit, all balance so wonderfully in space—it may be that they just happened; it may be that by a billion years of tumbling about they finally arranged themselves. I don't know. I am merely a plain manufacturer of cutlery. But this I do know, that you can shake the seventeen parts of a meat chopper around in a washtub for the next seventeen billion years and you'll never have a meat chopper."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Just as it takes all the parts of the meat chopper to make it complete, God needs all of us to work for Him—our ears, eyes, and noses as well as our mouths.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

Scripture Reading—John 3:16

GRATITUDE

One day, we are told, a little girl, the daughter of a printer, who worked where they were printing Luther's translation of the Bible, picked up a small scrap of paper from the floor, upon which were printed these words: "God so loved the world that He gave . . ." the rest of the sentence was torn off, but over and over again the child read, "God so loved the world that He gave . . ." She, and her mother before her, had been taught to fear God as a great Being just waiting to punish them: but now the child said to her mother, who had asked, "What did He give?" "I don't know what He gave, but if He loved us well enough to give us anything, He is not angry with us and we need not be afraid of Him; we can just love and thank Him for whatever He gave us."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God gave His Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the Cross for our sins. What more can one person give?

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Scripture Reading—1 John 4:10

HEREIN IS LOVE

A gentleman who was a professed Christian was taken seriously ill. He became troubled about the little love he felt in his heart for God, and spoke of his experience to a friend. This is how the friend answered him: "When I go home from here, I expect to take my baby on my knee, look into her sweet eyes, listen to her charming prattle, and tired as I am, her presence will rest me; for I love that child with unutterable tenderness. But she loves me little. If my heart were breaking it would not disturb her sleep. If my body were racked with pain, it would not interrupt her play. If I were dead, she would forget me in a few days. Besides this, she has never brought me a penny, but was a constant expense to me. I am not rich, but there is not money enough in the world to buy my baby. How is it? Does she love me, or do I love her? Do I withhold my love until I know she loves me? Am I waiting for her to do something worthy of my love before extending it"?

This practical illustration of the love of God for His children caused the tears to roll down the sick man's face. "Oh, I see," he exclaimed, "it is not my love to God, but God's love for me, that I should be thinking of. And I do love Him now as I never loved Him before." "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us" (1 John 4:10).

PRAYER THOUGHT

There is a great love between a man and a woman, but there is a greater love between God and His children.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Scripture Reading—Ephesians 1:4

SOME ONE WHO LOVED GOD!

Asked a little bootblack of a lawyer, as he shined his shoes, "Mr. Bartlett, do you love God"? The lawyer was a self-respecting man but not a Christian, and was much taken aback, and said, "Why do you ask me that, Bat"? "Well, me mother'n me got to get out, fer the place we live in'll be torn down. Me grandmother's lame. I dunno whut to do. Yistiddy I heerd two men talkin' an' one said God would help anybody that loved Him, if they'd tell Him they wuz in a hole. I thought I'd lay fer somebody that knowed Him well enough to ask Him." All the embarrassed lawyer could the tell bootblack was to keep trying, and he'd be sure to find somebody who could help him. Then he gave the boy a dollar and hurried away; but after a day of self-examination and reproach, he appeared in a prayer meeting for the first time in years. He frankly told the story without sparing himself. The minister there told the story later at a ministers' meeting, only to find another minister there who knew of a young man awakened to a new life by a question from the same bootblack. Then a third declared that a man who knew how to answer the boy had brought him to his own study. It could not be allowed to end there. The boy was helped to a good lodging for his "family," given patronage, given opportunity for an education, in which he showed so much promise that a lawyer took him in for training. He became a successful member of the bar, and a real helper of other boys, and withal a real Christian man, for he had at last found someone who loved God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God loves you whether you are rich

or poor. He loves all His children and cares for them. Do you love Him?

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

Scripture Reading—Romans 8:35

WHY THEY COULD NOT SLEEP

Two missionaries went to a village in Korea in which the Gospel had never been preached. It was noised abroad that they had come, and practically the whole population gathered. The interest of the people was so great that the meeting continued until a late hour. Finally, the missionaries closed the meeting and were shown into an adjoining room for the night. But the people did not go away, and the murmuring of their voices kept the missionaries from sleeping.

Along about two o'clock, one of them went back and said to the people, "Why don't you go home and go to sleep? It is very late and we are tired." The head man of the village answered in substance: "How can we sleep? You have told us that the Supreme Power is not an evil spirit trying to injure us, but a loving God who gave His only begotten Son for our salvation, and that if we turn away from our sins and trust Him, we may have the deliverance from fear, guidance in our perplexities, comfort in our sorrows. How can we sleep after a message like this?"

How could they indeed? And the missionaries, forgetting their weariness, sat down by those poor people and communed with them until the morning dawned.

PRAYER THOUGHT

It is the duty of all Christians to go into all the world and preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. What a wonderful message to spread!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

Scripture Reading—Jeremiah 18:8

MIXED AUDIENCES

A number of years ago I was invited by a very godly minister to address his congregation on a certain Lord's Day. I said to him, "Doctor, when I come to speak to your people, what kind of audience will I address? Will they be mainly your own members, all Christian people, or many strangers and possibly unconverted people?" I can still see the tears that came into his eyes as he said, seriously and solemnly, "Well, my brother, I think that most of them will be our own people; but I am afraid that very few of our own members are Christians. Therefore, I hope you will come to us with a clear, definite Gospel message, and I shall be praying that God may use it for the awakening and the salvation of many of our people." What a solemn thing to have to make a confession like that! And yet is it not true in many places today? We take too much for granted when we suppose that membership in a Christian church means that one is really a child of God. There must be a second birth; there must be personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should pray daily for the unsaved who attend church just as Christians do.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Scripture Reading—Acts 2:38

ALL WERE LOST ALIKE!

It was a dark, winter's night. The rain was falling fast, and there was nothing more inviting than the warm glow of the fire before which we were sitting.

There was a knock at the front door. The farmer went to answer it, as the rest of the household had gone to their beds.

Coming back to me he said he had heard that all his sheep were missing from the field where they had been placed by him. He must go to find them.

So, having prepared with waterproofs and lanterns, we went forth into the darkness.

In one of the hedges of the field, where the sheep had been left, the farmer discovered what he called "a bolting hole." A strong sheep had worked its way through at that point, and would be followed by all the others.

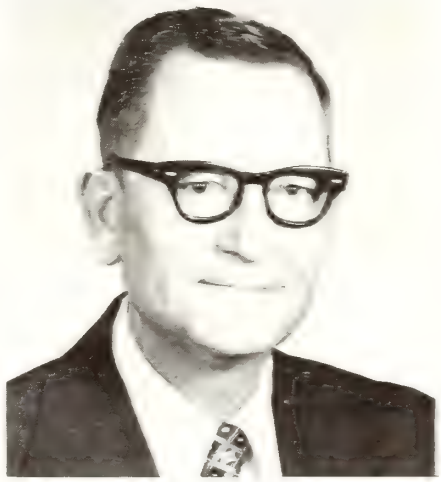
It was either in the third or fourth field that we came up with the straying animals. And then we found them scattered over the pasture. No. two of them seemed to be together. Each had chosen its own course, regardless of the path another had taken. All were lost alike. Then, each had followed its own heart. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way!" ALL sinners are lost alike. But each sinner has gone the way of his own choosing!

PRAYER THOUGHT

If a person doesn't accept Jesus, he is lost according to his own doing. Jesus is sad over this. He searches for His lost sheep.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*. Eerdmans Press.

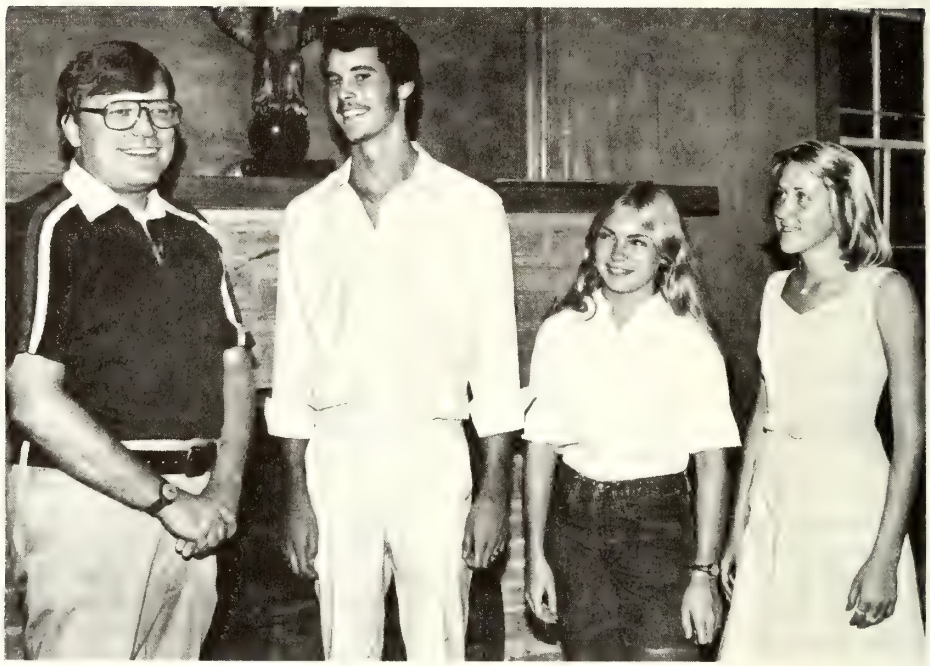
W. H. WILLIS RETURNS HOME



W. H. Willis

W. H. Willis was licensed to preach in 1947, at Moseley's Creek Free Will Baptist Church. He has pastored several churches, the last one being Pleasant Hill (Central) where he served about ten years.

He came to Moseley's Creek as pastor in July. He is working hard and doing good work. Since he was been here, five members have been added to the church, two by baptism and three by letter. Moseley's Creek is fortunate to have such a dedicated servant who serves his Master and church so faithfully. We pray that he will continue in His service for many years to come.



Dr. Wayne Wiley, Randy Caroon, Karen Flowers, and Sherri Slaughter.

Dr. Wayne Wiley, Dean of Mount Olive College, initiated the first of a series of lectures as a part of the Academic Honors Program at Mount Olive College.

The program is designed to enrich and stimulate the pursuit of academic excellence among students.

Some of the Free Will Baptist students that participate in the program talked with Dr. Wiley following the lecture. Standing with Dr. Wiley, from left, are Randy Caroon from Lowland and Mt. Zion church in Vandemere; Karen Flowers from First Free Will Baptist Church in LaGrange; and Sherri Slaughter from Holly Springs church in Newport.

Mount Olive College Professor Ken Dilda is Academic Honors chairman.

COLLEGE DINNERS SET FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

The following county dinners to benefit Mount Olive College have been scheduled in October and November. As College Dinners are planned the information will be listed in the FREE WILL BAPTIST.

BEAUFORT COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 7 p. m., Chocowinity High School, Oscar Webster, chairman.

CARTERET COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 6:30 p. m., East Carteret High School, Reginald Styron and Nathan Garner, co-chairman.

CRAVEN COUNTY—Monday, October 23, 7 p. m., Sudan Temple, New Bern, Miss Marice DeBruhl, chairman.

DUPLIN COUNTY—Saturday, November 4, 6 p. m., East Duplin High School, William E. Futch, chairman.

EDGECOMBE-HALIFAX COUNTIES—Thursday, November 2, 7:30 p. m., First Free Will Baptist Church, of Tarboro, Rufus Harrell, chairman.

GREENE COUNTY—Saturday, October 14, 7 p. m., West Greene School, Snow Hill, George Harrison, chairman.

JOHNSTON-WAKE COUNTIES—Monday, November 6, 7 p. m., Smithfield-Selma High School, Dallas Pinkham, chairman.

JONES COUNTY—Monday, October 30, 7 p. m., King's Barbecue Restaurant in Kinston, Miss Margaret Carol Banks, chairman.

NASH COUNTY—Thursday, October 19, 7 p. m. Middlesex Elementary School, Barry Gardner, chairman.

ONSLOW-NEW HANOVER COUNTIES—Thursday, October 26, 7 p. m., Folkstone church, Leonard Hobbs, chairman.

PAMLICO COUNTY—Saturday November 18, 6:30 p. m., Camp Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, chairman.

PITT COUNTY—Tuesday, November 14, 7 p. m., D. H. Conley High School, Gary Bailey, chairman.

SAMPSON, HARNETT, CUMBERLAND COUNTIES—Thursday, November 16, 7 p. m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, chairman.

WASHINGTON, MARTIN, TYRELL, and PASQUOTANK COUNTIES—Tuesday, November 7, 7:30 p. m., Washington County Union School, David Cahoon, chairman.

WAYNE COUNTY—Tuesday, October 17, 7 p. m., Mount Olive College Auditorium, Miss Louise Edgerton, chairman.

WILSON COUNTY—Tuesday, November 21, 7 p. m., Beddingfield School, James B. Hunt Sr., chairman.

ADMISSIONS OFFICERS TO VISIT SCHOOLS

Russell W. Duncan, Mount Olive College Director of Admissions and Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director, will visit in the following schools as part of the Post Secondary Opportunity program.

Free Will Baptist students attending these schools are invited to come by and bring their friends.

October 16— Charles B. Aycock
Eastern Wayne
Southern Wayne
Washington City
Beaufort County
Hyde County
Plymouth High School

October 17— Ayden-Grifton High School
D. H. Conley
Farmville Central
North Pitt
Kinston High School

October 18— Lenoir County Schools
Greene Central
Onslow County and Camp Lejeune

October 19— New Bern
West Craven
Jones County
Pamlico County
Havelock
Carteret County Schools

October 20— Sampson County Schools

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Vanceboro on Sunday, October 15, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Eddie Edwards is pastor.

YOUTH CHOIR TO PRESENT PROGRAM

The Youth Choir of Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson will present a program of music and songs on Wednesday, October 11, at 7:30 p. m. on the Mount Olive College campus in Rodgers Chapel.

The public is cordially invited to attend. The Rev. David Charles Hansley is pastor of Daniels Chapel church.

DR. EARL L. BUTZ TO SPEAK



Dr. Earl L. Butz

Dr. Earl. L. Butz, former United States Secretary of Agriculture, will speak at Rodgers Chapel on the Mount Olive College campus Tuesday, October 17, at the 11 a. m. chapel service.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

NEW CREATIONS AT GREENVILLE

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of song and testimony at First Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville on Sunday, October 15, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Davie Brinson is pastor.

MRS. RILEY TO SPEAK

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College, will speak at Wooten's Chapel in Wake County for a Mount Olive College Day service to be held Sunday, October 15, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. J. B. Caton is pastor.

Coming Events . . .

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 12—Western Conference, Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson

October 12—Albemarle District Woman's Auxiliary Convention, First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth

October 14—Cape Fear Sunday School Convention

October 14—Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting, Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Horry County, South Carolina

October 17—Dr. Earl Butz, former United States Secretary of Agriculture will speak at Rodgers Chapel, Mount Olive College, at the 11 a. m. service. The public is invited.

October 18—Mount Olive Singers to appear on Peggy Mann show aired on WTVD-Durham, Channel 11, at 1 p. m.

October 18, 19—Eastern Conference, Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul

October 20-22—Fall Break, Mount Olive College

October 27-29—Mount Olive College students to attend Religious Life Retreat in Oriental.

October 29—Fifth Eastern Sunday School Convention

Churches and Ministers Available

The Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg, is looking for a full-time pastor. Anyone interested please contact Mr. Raeford Heath, Route 1, Snow Hill, N.C. 28580; or phone 747-2252 after 6:30 p. m.

The Rev. James Warren of Kinston, North Carolina, would like to announce that he is now available for a full-time church. Mr. Warren will be glad to come to any church and conduct a trial sermon. He is a member of and in good standing with the Eastern Conference. He can be reached by calling 527-1648 or writing to him at 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

NEWS & NOTES

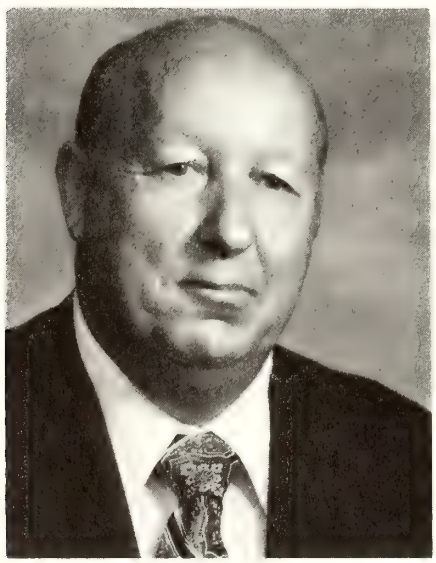
Shiloh Church
Revival and Homecoming

Revival services began Monday, October 9, and will continue at 7:30 each night through Friday, October 13, at Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church of Pinetown. The Rev. Earl Glenn, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church of Goldsboro, is the evangelist. Special music will be featured at each service; also a nursery will be provided.

On Sunday, October 15, the Shiloh church will observe its annual homecoming. The pastor, the Rev. Marvin Waters, will preach the morning message.

The church membership and its pastor invite everyone to attend these services.

Revival at
Reedy Branch Church



O. B. Jones

Revival services will begin on Monday night, October 16, and continue through Friday night, October 20. Services will begin each night at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. O. B. Jones, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Tarboro will be the evangelist.

There will be special music each evening provided by the choir and quartet of the church, and there will be visiting singers also.

Blanie Moye will be the music director for the meeting. Tommy Manning will be the organist, and Lou Nanney will serve as pianist.

There is a new group in the church known as the Lord's Army who will be singing some of their new songs during the meeting.

The pastor, the Rev. Willis Wilson, extends a cordial welcome to all to attend and share in this time of inspiration.

Homecoming at
Fellowship Church

Homecoming will be held at Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, on October 15. The Rev. Fred Rivenbark will be speaking during the morning worship service. Following the morning service, lunch will be served at the Grange in Elm City, North Carolina, shortly after noon. After the meal, they will then go back to the church for a special singing service. This service will be rendered by the Young Believers of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson and church members.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Homecoming and Revival
At Edgewood Church

The members of Edgewood church near Crisp, cordially invite all friends, former members, and pastors to attend their annual homecoming services on Sunday, October 15. The Rev. Ray Allman of Durham, a former pastor of the church, will be bringing the morning message, and a special song service has been planned by the different groups of the church. Lunch will be served in the fellowship building following the morning service. Also, beginning Monday night, October 16, revival services will begin with the Rev. Dewey Boling of Wilson, as evangelist. Special singing will be held each night also. Please be much in prayer that God may richly bless during these services and the public is cordially invited to attend these services also.

Pleasant Hill Auxiliary
Honors Baker Family



L-R, front row—Stevie and Kim Baker; Back row—Fred Baker, Joseph Rollins, Sunday school superintendent; Linda Baker; and the Rev. Larry Melton, pastor.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church entertained the Rev. Fred and Mrs. Linda Baker, Free Will Baptist missionaries to the Philippines, on September 30, with a farewell party in the church fellowship hall.

The Bakers were presented gifts of household linens by various members of the church. In addition, the Sunday school gave them $200, and the ladies' auxiliary, $50 toward the purchase of a vehicle to use in their work. The church youth auxiliaries presented the Baker children, Kim and Stevie, another $50 to be used to help with their education expenses.

Mr. Baker grew up in the Pleasant Hill church, and he and Mrs. Baker were members there for several years after their marriage. They will leave October 22 to begin their work on the island of Palawan in the Philippines.

Homecoming at
Malachi's Chapel Church

Homecoming at Malachi's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Columbia, will be held Sunday, October 22. Sunday school begins at 10 a. m. and worship services at 11 a. m. Lunch will be served at noon. All members, former pastors of the church, relatives, and friends are invited to attend.

Revival Services
First Church, Wilson

First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson announces its fall revival beginning on Monday night, October 9 and continuing through Friday night. The Rev. O. B. Jones will be the guest speaker for the week. Special music will be presented each night. The services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The pastor and the church extend a warm welcome to everyone.

Piney Grove Church
Has Activities



Sonlite

Piney Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Albertson, observed youth Sunday, September 24, with the youth of the church having charge of the classes. During the morning worship service, Sonlite, a group of young people from Winterville, presented a message in song. The members of the group are David Hines, Bryant Hines, Alice Hines, students at Mount Olive College; Shawn Carson, Bob Hines, and Erwin Hines. After the service dinner was served in the fellowship hall.

Revival services are in progress at the Piney Grove church with the Rev. J. B. Starnes of Morehead City, as the visiting evangelist. Services started Monday, October 9, and will conclude Friday, October 13. Services are beginning each evening at 7:30. The church and its pastor, the Rev. Larry J. Crumpler Jr., invite the public to come and worship with them.

Revival Services and Homecoming
Juniper Chapel Church

Revival services will begin at Juniper Chapel Free Will Baptitist Church on October 15 and will continue through October 20, with the Rev. William L. Dale of Spring Hill church at Goldsboro, bringing the evening messages. Services will begin Sunday night at 7 and evenings thereafter at 7:45. The pastor, the Rev. Eddie Edwards, invites everyone to join in worshiping and praying that the lost will be saved and Christians revived.

On Sunday, October 22, homecoming will be observed with worship services beginning at 11. Dinner will be served on the grounds and the Four in Christ will be bringing a message in song for the afternoon. All members, former members and visitors are invited.

Long Ridge Church
Announces Revival and Homecoming

Revival services will begin on Monday, October 9, and will continue through Friday night, October 13 at Long Ridge Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Mount Olive. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The Rev. C. F. Bowen will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each night.

Homecoming will be observed on October 22 with Sunday school at 10 and worship service at 11 with the pastor bringing the message. Dinner will be served on the church grounds, and an afternoon sing will be held. The pastor, the Rev. C. Sheldon Howard, and the church congregation extend an invitation to everyone to attend.

Revival and Homecoming
Marlboro Church



L. B. Manning

Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Farmville, announces its fall revival to be held October 16-20 at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. L. B. Manning, a former pastor, will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. A warm welcome is extended to everyone to attend these services.

The Marlboro church will observe homecoming on October 22. The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor, will deliver the message. After dinner, a singspiration will be held. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend.

Winterville Church
Have Harvest Sale

The Christian Fellowship Class of the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, will sponsor its third annual harvest sale Saturday, October 14, beginning at 11 a. m., at the Winterville Fire Station. All kinds of homemade

Turn the Page

crafts will be on sale as well as lunch at the snack bar. The car wash begins at 10 a. m. A gospel sing featuring The Gospel Chargers and The Psalms will be at 6 p. m. There will also be an auction at 7 p. m. Everyone is urged to participate. All proceeds will go to the church building fund.

Pleasant Plain Church
Announces Revival

Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Selma, announces revival services for October 16 through 20, starting at 7:30 p. m. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Royster Martin of Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser. Everyone is cordially invited.

Bazaar at Free Union
Church, Greene County

There will be a bazaar at the Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Walstonburg, on Saturday, October 7, from 11 a. m. until 7 p. m. Hot dogs and hamburgers can be purchased at lunch and barbecue plates will be served at 5 p. m. to 7 p. m. Tickets for the barbecue dinner can be bought from the church members or call 747-3928. Arts, crafts, Christmas decorations, canned goods, bakery goodies and many other items will be available.

Bethany Church
Observe Homecoming and Revival

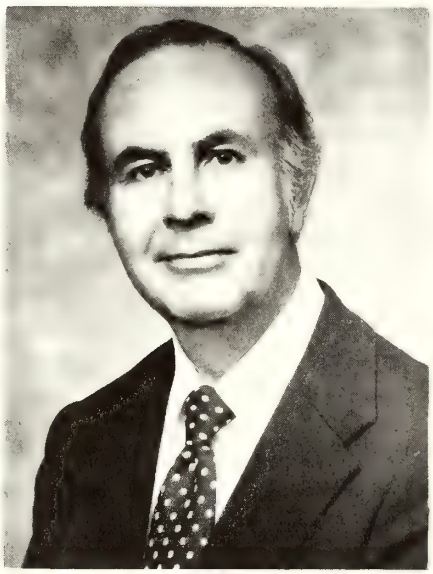
Bethany Free Will Baptist Church will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 15. The church is located on Route 1, Winterville. The day will begin with Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. followed by morning worship at 11 a. m. with the message being brought by the Rev. A. B. Chandler, a former pastor. A nursery will be provided during the worship hour.

Lunch will be served on the church grounds at noon. There will be a songfest at 1:30 by Rex Wainwright. Everyone is invited to come and share a day of celebration of God's goodness.

The Rev. Royce Reynolds, will conduct the fall revival October 16 through October 20 at 7:30 p. m.

Mount Zion Church
Homecoming and Revival

Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Roper, will observe homecoming, October 15. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m. The pastor, the Rev. Charlie Overton, will speak at the morning service. Lunch will be served at the church during the noon hour. In the afternoon services, there will be a memorial service for members who have passed away. There will be an afternoon singspiration, featuring the Gospel Chargers from Winterville, and other groups.



Earl Glenn

Revival services will begin on Monday night, October 16, with the Rev. Earl Glenn from Goldsboro doing the preaching each night at 7:30. Special singing is planned. The pastor and members of the church extend a special invitation to everyone.

Homecoming and Revival
Pleasant Hill Church

Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Pikeville, will observe homecoming on Sunday, October 15. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. with the Rev. Fred Baker, missionary to the Philippines, teaching the Sunday school lesson to the combined Adult and Paul Palmer classes. The pastor, the Rev. Larry Melton, will bring the morning message with special singing by the choir. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall at 12:30 p. m. The afternoon program will begin at 1:30 with the Rev. James Lupton, a former pastor, bringing the devotional. This will be followed by a memorial service and special music.

Revival services will also begin at Pleasant Hill church, on Monday evening, October 16, and continue through Friday evening, October 20. The Rev. Larry Melton, pastor of the church, will bring the evening messages. Local and visiting talent will bring special music each evening. The pastor and members of the church extend an invitation to everyone.

Homecoming at
Calvary Church

Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will hold its annual homecoming, October 15. The morning message will be brought by the pastor, the Rev. Dewey C. Boling. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall. Following lunch, there will be a singspiration. All former members and friends are invited to attend.

Revival Services and Homecoming
Casey's Chapel Church

Revival services will be held at Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church on Highway 70 East, Goldsboro, through October 14 at 7:30 nightly. The Rev. Bobby Jackson of Greenville is the guest speaker. Special music is provided each night.

Homecoming will be observed on October 15. Pastor Ed Miles and members extend a welcome to everyone.

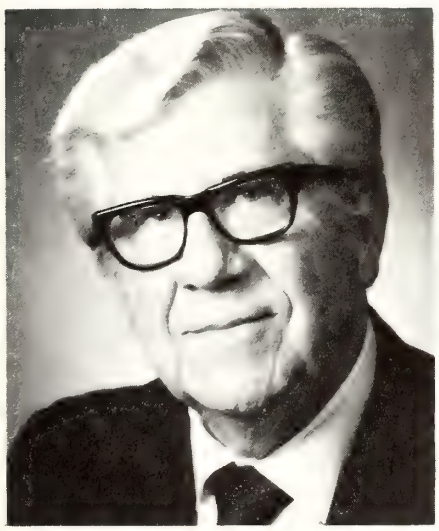
Union Chapel Church
Have Revival

The Union Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church, on Highway 32, south of Plymouth, extends a warm invitation to

everyone to attend revival services October 16-20. The evangelist will be the Rev. Bobby Bazen, pastor of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, near Goldsboro. Services will begin at 8 p. m. The Rev. Stanley Buck is the pastor of Union Chapel.

Homecoming, Mortgage Burning and Revival at St. Mary's

St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, 314 Fleet Street, New Bern, North Carolina, announces their annual homecoming service, and a special mortgage burning service during the morning worship hour on October 15. The pastor, the Rev. Rod Jones, will be delivering the homecoming message and Mr. U. W. Daugherty and Mrs. Lila Harrison, two of the oldest members of the church, will participate in the mortgage burning. Mrs. Versie Baldree will hold the memorial service, memorializing those members called home by the Lord during the past year. Lunch will be served on the adjacent property which has recently been acquired by the church.



C. F. Bowen

Revival services will begin on Monday evening, October 16, at 7:30 p. m. with the Rev. C. F. Bowen as guest evangelist. Special singing will be rendered each evening by the choir.

The pastor, Mr. Jones, and the congregation extend a special invitation to all former pastors, members and friends to worship at St. Mary's for these very special services.

Revival Services
Westside Church

Revival services will be held October 16 through 20 at the Westside Original Free Will Baptist Church, Lynn Drive, Kinston. The Rev. Henry Armstrong of Dunn will be the evangelist. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. Clifton Rice, and the church invite the public to attend. There will be special music each night.

Revival Services
Folkstone Church

Revival services at Folkstone Free Will Baptist Church, north of Holly Ridge, off Highway 17, will begin Monday night, October 9 and will continue through Friday, October 13 at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Billy Hardee will be the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. The pastor, the Rev. L. L. Parker, and the members extend a cordial invitation to everyone.

IS THIS THE WAY IT WILL BE?

(Contributed by Miss Pam Prescott)

In the end there was Earth, and it was with form and beauty.
And Man dwelt upon the lands of the Earth,
the meadows, and trees, and he said,
"Let us build our dwellings in this place of beauty."
And he built cities and covered the Earth with
concrete and steel.
And the meadows were gone. And Man said, "It is good."

On the second day, Man looked upon the waters of the Earth.
And Man said, "Let us put our wastes in the waters that the
dirt will be washed away. And Man did.
And the waters became polluted and foul in their smells.
And Man said, "It is good."

On the third day, Man looked upon the forests of the
Earth and saw they were beautiful.
And Man said, "Let us cut timber for our homes and
grind the wood for our use." And Man did.
And the lands became barren and the trees were gone.
And Man said, "It is good."

On the fourth day, Man saw that animals were in abundance
and ran in the fields and played in the sun.
And Man said, "Let us cage the animals for our amusement
and kill them for our sport." And Man did.
And there were no more animals on the face of the Earth.
And Man said, "It is good."

On the fifth day, Man breathed air of the Earth.
And Man said, "Let us dispose of our wastes into the air
for the winds shall blow them away." And Man did.
And the air became heavy with dust and all living things
choked and burned. And Man said, "It is good."

On the sixth day, Man saw himself. And seeing the
many languages and tongues, he feared and hated.
And Man said, "Let us build great machines and destroy
these lest they destroy us."
And Man built great machines and the Earth was fired
with the rage of great wars.
And Man said, "It is good."
On the seventh day, Man rested from his labors and the
Earth was still, for Man no longer dwelt upon the Earth.
And it was good.

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For October 22

MORAL PURITY

Lesson Text: Matthew 5:27-30; Exodus 20:14; John 8:1-11
Memory Verse: Exodus 20:14

I. INTRODUCTION

Any study involving marriage ought to find its background in the facts of creation. When there was neither brother nor sister nor mother, nor any father but himself, the Lord God set a man and woman side by side. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). Commenting on this, God's Son said, "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matthew 19:3-9).

What Jesus said at that point is often called His teaching on divorce, but it may fittingly be called his teaching on marriage. Marriage is for life! When two people become one flesh, to separate them is amputation. No one gives up an arm and a leg unless he absolutely has to, and divorce likewise is unthinkable if it can be avoided.

In Old Testament times, God's Law tolerated divorce because of the hardness of people's hearts, as do our laws today. For the same hardness of heart, God's Law allowed a man to have two or more wives at once; but this too is outside the original plan. To be joined to a plurality of mates at once, whether by marriage or by adultery, is to be torn apart. Anyone who tries it will certainly suffer.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Sexual relations of a married person with anyone other than his or her spouse is adultery, which is forbidden by the Seventh Commandment. While the commandment refers only to the act, Jesus taught further that lust in itself is adultery. As defined by law, adultery is of two kinds: double, when between two married people; and, single, when one of the parties is married and the other is single. The act itself, and everything leading to the act, is prohibited by this commandment; for our Lord, the Giver of the law, taught that even to look upon a woman to lust after her is to commit adultery with her in the heart. Adulterous thoughts and dispositions arising from all sorts of debauching stimuli are included in the prohibitions of the commandment.

B. In this lesson, we have the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount concerning adultery, the statement of the Seventh Commandment in the Old Testament, and an incident in which Jesus reacts to adultery. These Scriptures should help us to understand something of the attitude of our Lord toward impurity of life and conduct.

C. Observe that the Seventh Commandment, which forbids adultery, comes right after the one that forbids, the killing of human beings. The most sacred thing a man has is his life, and the next in importance is his home and family. This commandment on adultery is given for the protection of the institution of marriage and the home that is stated as a result of the marriage.

D. Many people seem to have the idea that one's thoughts do not count unless he puts them into action, but this is not true. Jesus definitely taught that to have lust in the mind for a person of the opposite sex is just as evil as the act of adultery. In other words, when we lust after a person of the opposite sex, we have committed adultery in our minds whether the act is consumated or not.

E. This lesson should help us to see and understand that everything that affects our thoughts is important. Pornographic literature, television, and movies are wrong when they cause us to have evil thoughts. Thoughts are important because sin comes out of the mind, and if we keep our minds clean there will be no sin.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITONAL TRUTHS

A. We come now to the Seventh Commandment, which deals with the basic relationship of humankind on earth—the relationship between man and woman. It also deals with the sacred institution of marriage, which it seeks to protect.

B. Marriage, according to the original institution, made the husband and wife "one flesh" (Genesis 2:24). To break in upon this union was at once a crime and a profanity. The Seventh Commandment binds man and woman equally; both parties in the act of adultery are equally guilty. We shall see that Jesus did not tolerate the so-called "double standard" of moral purity.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Donald Kauffman has said, "A good marriage is not a contract between two persons but a sacred covenant between three. Too often Christ is not invited to the wedding, and finds no room in the home." Remember this: both marriage and sex, approached in the Christian spirit, can become the most divine experiences in human life. With Christ left out, both can become tawdry and unclean. Moral purity is an old fashioned phrase, but can you think of anything else the world needs more than this?—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

Only So Much Room—I once saw a small boy trying to get two objects in a box. It was obvious that the two objects were larger than the box. So the child was shown that only one of them could go into the box at the time. Our minds have a capacity. Evil things and good things are too large to both occupy our minds at the same time. If we fill our minds with the right kinds of things, we will not have to worry about the evil things.—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

Missions

MISSION NEWS FROM MEXICO

by the Rev. Vance Link

The Mexican State Convention of Free Will Baptist Churches met on August 10, 1978, at the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Acuna, Mexico. The president of the convention, Brother Antonio Lopez, extended greetings to all those present and noted that with the exception of one mission, every area of the work was represented by delegate.

During the convention, emphases were placed upon the responsibility of each church and mission to extend combined efforts in the missionary work in Mexico. Some of the joints projects of the convention include: (1) the purchase of property in Allende, Mexico, and the future construction of a building there to be used as a convention center, and (2) the joint efforts of evangelism.



Church in Allende under construction.

For these purposes the convention has been divided into two areas, north and south. The southern area is under the direction of Brother Israel Gonzalez, and the northern area under the direction of Brother Isaias Lugo. In connection with this program, Brother Israel in the southern area began a radio ministry from Allende each Sunday morning.

The new officers for the years 1978-79 are: president, Isaias Lugo; secretario, Antonio Escobar; treasurer, Israel Gonzalez; and program director, Antonio Escobar.

Please pray for the work of the convention of churches in Mexico.

A BAPTISMAL SERVICE IN JIMENEZ

On the last day of Bible school in Jimenez, Brother German Rodriquez, pastor of the local church, came to me that morning and asked me if I would baptize several young girls that day after Bible school. They had accepted Christ sometime earlier and had come to the pastor, saying they were ready for baptism, and would like to know if I would baptize them.



Here are some of the people as they make their way to a river approximately one mile away.

Of course, it was a pleasure for me to do so, even though I knew the clothes I wore would get wet. But I also knew they would dry. So I had the privilege of baptizing three sisters, ages 15, 17, and 19.

CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION



Brother Escobar and Brother Angel standing in front of mission in Villa Union.

In the picture, Brother Antonio Escobar, field director in Mexico, and Brother Jose Angel are standing in front of the mission building in Villa Union. Brother Angel, one of our younger workers, has recently been placed in Villa Union to direct the work at this mission. They have just put the top on the building and need to put in windows and doors.

Due to the increased attendance, the church at Allende has had to enlarge its building. Shown in the picture is the church during its revovation program. They are doubling the size of the building and raising the roof some three feet on the other part of the building. They plan to build two Sunday school rooms on the back in the near future. Brother Gonzalez is the pastor of this church.

VICTORY AND LELAND MISSIONS CELEBRATE HOMECOMINGS

The Victory Mission celebrated their annual homecoming on Sunday, September 24. A large number turned out for the event. Friends from other nearby churches and missions were on hand for the occasion such as: The Haymount Mission, Catalpa Mission, Eastover Mission, Eastwood church, and others. It was a joyous occasion. The pastor is the Rev. Bobby Murray.



Group from Victory Mission enjoying time out for lunch.

The Faith Mission at Leland celebrated its homecoming on the same day and the pastor, the Rev. Roger Heath, reports a great success. He states that the house was filled and that it was a very good day for all who attended.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

"A Christian Home
for Boys and Girls"

Children's Home



MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

HOPEWELL WOMAN'S AUXILIARY GIVES COOKOUT



Children from Hopewell church at Children's Home cookout.

Several weeks ago the children were treated to a cookout by the Hopewell Woman's Auxiliary. Hamburgers with all the trimmings, potato chips, and soft drinks were served. Young people from the church also came, made new friends, and had a wonderful time playing games.

We certainly appreciate the work these ladies put into this event. Their husbands didn't do badly either! Thank you for a wonderful day.

CHILDREN'S HOME TREATED TO SEAFOOD DINNER



Children's Home staff and children enjoy seafood at Whiteside's restaurant.

The children and staff were recently the dinner guests of Mr. Jim Whiteside, owner of the 264 Fish Fry restaurant near Saratoga. For the past two years Mr. Whiteside has invited the Children's Home to dinner. His only request was that we bring our appetite. With all that delicious seafood to be eaten, a few hotdogs and cheeseburgers were also enjoyed.

A heart-felt thanks goes to Mr. Whiteside and his fine staff for the service and hospitality they extended to us.

NOVEMBER IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH

Fall brings colorful leaves and a nip in the air and . . . November. November is a special month to us all. It's the month of Thanksgiving. November is also Children's Home Month. Free Will Baptists have offered private child care to the children of our state for 58 years. Each May we honor our founding fathers. In November we give thanks to God for His faithfulness . . . for promises fulfilled. Plan this month to come to the Children's Home on November 18 to the annual Thanksgiving services and bring a thanksgiving offering to our Lord for sustaining your own family and your church family and our Children's Home family.

Bulletin Inserts are available for use during November, Children's Home Month. Let us know how many you will need for your services. Plan a special service and a special offering for the Home. You might have someone take a special report to the work at the Home in the services. We will be happy to furnish detailed information for you to present or you may refer to your conference, auxiliary convention, or State Convention reports.

Costs are high and are rising. Therefore, we hope you will make this year's Thanksgiving offerings generous ones. We depend on our churches for a large part of our budget. Friends, families, and some small founders' gifts are received each year, but our churches are our main sources of income. Help us make good child care better by aiding

us keep pace with the increases in the cost of living. In order for us to reach our anticipated income for the year we need at least $8 per member from our churches.

God has been faithful in all our 58 years to meet our needs. We are confident that this year will be no exception. Make this November the best Children's Home Month in our history by praying for the Home, receiving a special offering, and bring it to our annual Thanksgiving services on November 18, or sending it, if you cannot attend.

A TRIBUTE TO MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

by
Valerie Joan Wood
from
Grimsley Free Will Baptist Church

"Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18). I wish I could count the number of times I've heard this verse cited by Dr. Burkette Raper. This is the motto for an institution that seeks to place God first.

I'm a 1977 graduate of Mt. Olive College. Maybe you would like to ask me why I have waited so long to express my feelings about MOC. Two years ago I could have told you how I felt about my college, but I thought you would believe me more if I waited until I could prove what Mt. Olive College has done for me. As a senior in the School of Music at East Carolina University, I can say with sincerity that Mt. Olive College offered me much direction and purpose for life. Notice, that I said they **offered** this to me; no institution or place can **give** you direction and purpose. We, as Children of God have to reach out and accept what we are offered. So I reached out and grasped for the opportunities and experiences Mt. Olive offered me. I've heard so many people ask the question, "What can a small community like Mt. Olive offer to anyone who wants success in life?" Save that question until the end of my comments.

At Mt. Olive College, I was a music major with a concentration in piano. Mt. Olive offered me the following experiences, opportunities, honors, and challenges: Bryan Scholar, Johnston scholarships as accompanist for the Concert Choir, a McPhail Music Scholarship, organist for the college chapel services, membership in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and by audition, I was granted an Honor's Recital in piano, as a sophomore. In turn what did I offer to Mount Olive? I offered them my dedication in the field of music and all branches of the curriculum in which I could be of service. I took advantage of the many opportunities I was offered, and I did my very best to serve the college, the community, and my God.

Not until recently, have I fully realized and appreciated my experiences at Mt. Olive College, the growth, development, and success that I received. I realize that had I tried to enter the School of Music at ECU as a freshman, I probably would have never passed the audition. But MOC prepared me for what only God knew was to come. Because of the success I've had in the music department at ECU, I can truly say with assurance, that any student can go to Mt. Olive, take up any area of study, pursue all the opportunities offered in that area, and enter any four-year college or university and graduate after two years of hard, dedicated study.

Upon graduation from Mt. Olive in 1977, I entered ECU School of Music in the fall. I will be student teaching this fall at Farmville Central and Middle Schools and plan to graduate in May with a bachelor's degree in Music Education. With confidence, I highly uphold the Music Department of Mt. Olive College.

For the sake of those of you who wonder why MOC was so special to me, maybe you'll understand after you have a general knowledge of the curriculum that was extended to me in the Music Department.

Three teachers comprise the music department: Mrs. Irene Patten, chairman, Mrs. Elsie Wyman, and Mrs. Kathleen Warren. Mrs. Patten was my piano instructor, music theory instructor, director of the Concert Choir, and the MOC Singers, as well as my advisor, so we practically lived together for two years. There were only four sophomore music majors; therefore, we received all the individual attention which we needed in order to complete our degree in music. Mrs. Patten was like a right arm to me. I guess you may say that, in a sense, she was my "Bible" for two years. Whatever she suggested or thought was best for me, as far as school was concerned, I listened to. That's why I'm at ECU now. She thought I could do the work, and I appreciate her confidence in me. It's very important to me that I be the first student to graduate from the School of Music at ECU as a music major from MOC.

Mrs. Kathleen Warren is the voice instructor at MOC. I minored in voice for a year. Mrs. Warren had so many voice students, yet never once has she ever compared voices. She accepted what each individual had to work with, and helped us to make the most of it, and to use our voice to the best of our ability. That's what I call a genuine voice teacher.

Mrs. Elsie Wyman teaches piano, organ, music appreciation, music literature, and group piano. She is known mainly for her performance at the organ. Mrs. Wyman and I share a very unusual experience as teacher and student. I guess the greatest challenge of my career at Mt. Olive was the task as college organist. In 1976, Burke Raper graduated from Mt. Olive, and left a vacancy for college organist. I was offered the opportunity to fill this vacancy. And believe me, I would have never received this opportunity anywhere else on the face of this earth. For you see, I had never touched an organ before. Now if you've ever been in the chapel on the MOC campus and viewed this tremendous organ, you'll appreciate what I'm about to say. Mrs. Wyman offfered me organ lessons in her home during the summer, and a few weeks after the fall semester began, I was playing the organ for college chapel

(Continued on Next Page)

services! Of course, I continued to take organ in the fall. But doesn't this speak for the opportunities Mt. Olive can offer to one willing to accept?

We have heard time and time again that Mt. Olive College is not for everyone. This is so true. If you don't want to love and be loved, MOC is not for you. At MOC, I was somebody special, not just a number. MOC taught me to seek for everything I wanted from this life, and never to settle for anything less.

Mount Olive College is a person—it's you, and it's me. MOC can be no more than we, as Christian Free Will Baptists make it. And it's growing because we're growing. But are we doing enough? As we have goals, so does MOC. Don't you want to see MOC become a four-year institution? God has a plan for Mt. Olive College as He has for our lives. I have had the opportunity recently to hear some wonderful ministers preach who have been educated from **our** college. And I thank God every day for our young, educated ministers which we have in the Free Will Baptist denomination, and I take time here to say, thank **you**, Mt. Olive College, for what you're doing for hundreds of other young people like me!

May God bless each one of you as you seek to put God first in your daily life.

PICTURES WANTED

The Free Will Baptist Historical Society is interested in obtaining pictures of ministers and laymen who were active in the early history of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Anyone who has a picture of any of these men, or who knows someone who has a picture and could get it, is asked to notify Miss Leah McGlohon, P. O. Box 2, Winterville, North Carolina 28590 (telephone: 756-2621).

If the person who has the picture does not want to give it, a loan of the picture for copying would be greatly appreciated and will be returned to the sender. A portrait, rather than a snapshot, is preferred. Please send the pictures immediately to the above address. They are needed so as to have time to make copies before the Thanksgiving service at the Children's Home on November 18. The Society will meet at the Children's Home on that date.

The list of pictures wanted is as follows:

Ministers

J. W. Alford
J. R. Bennett
J. C. Griffin
J. F. Hill
W. R. Coats
J. F. Casey
J. E. Davis
B. B. Deans
B. P. Parks
M. C. Prescott
R. V. Self
L. H. Wetherington

Others

W. J. Braxton, Winterville
E. E. Dail, Central Conference
A. F. Dawson, Central Conference
L. B. Dunn
Dr. M. Hinnant, Micro
W. A. Jackson
R. L. Little, Grimesland
W. R. Sawyer, Eastern Conference
Tommie Sawyer, Eastern Conference

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES AT CRAGMONT

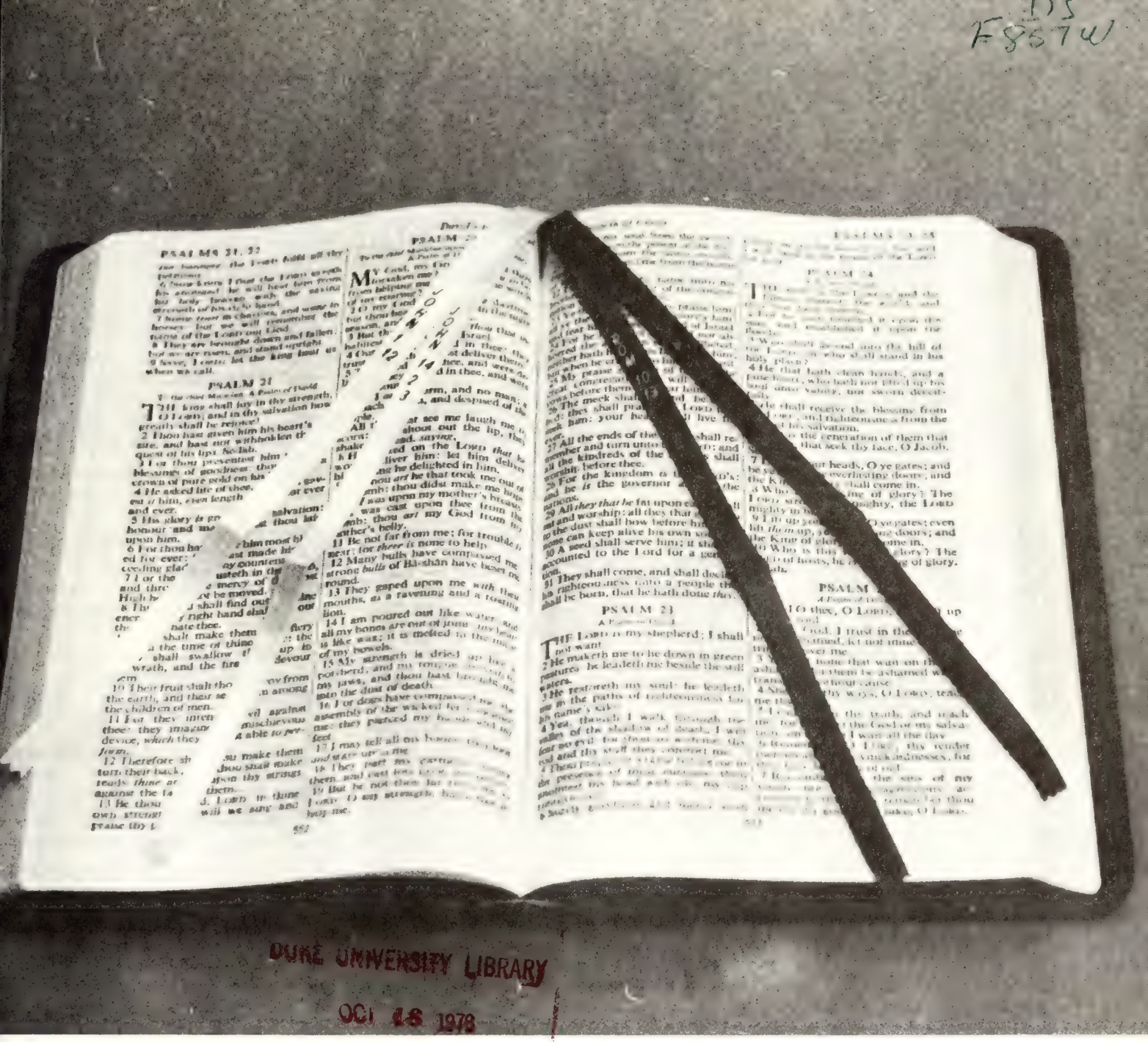


These pictures show the progress being made on the building at Cragmont.



Please continue to support the work with your prayers and contributions.

BS
F857W



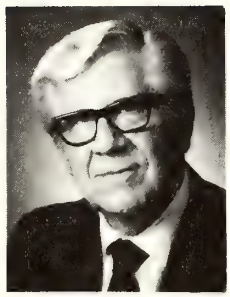
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OCT 18 1978
DURHAM, N.C.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

AT THE CAROLINA BIBLE INSTITUTE EVERY COURSE OF STUDY HAS ITS BASE IN THE WORD OF GOD— AND THAT IS GOOD!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

The Carolina Bible Institute

We have just finished reading for the third time the report of The Carolina Bible Institute submitted to the recent session of our state convention by its capable president, the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry.

It is a good report.

It makes us glad that we were a part of its faculty for a year when the Institute was located at Wilson. It is now in Pine Level, North Carolina. Working with Mr. Cherry was in itself a privilege and a joy.

Questions were raised at the convention as to whether the school is a Free Will Baptist institution. Mr. Cherry's report states that it is; he says, "Our charter says so."

We are not attempting to read any interpretation into the report's phraseology which should not be there (except for some comments which follow)—Mr. Cherry has done his homework well and doesn't need our help. But look again at the words "Free Will Baptist Institution." It seems to us that the words "Free Will Baptist" here simply serve as what may be considered an adjective phrase, modifying the word Institution, describing what kind of institution it is. If that be true, then why raise questions regarding the school's being called a Free Will Baptist institution?

In the same spirit of the thought one may very well refer to his home as a "Free Will Baptist" home since its parents and children are affiliated with some Free Will Baptist church.

What would make The Carolina Bible Institute a Free Will Baptist institution? A vote of the convention? If so, what next? Would someday we have to petition the convention to allow us to call our homes Free Will Baptist?

There is no question in the minds of its students "from 15 different counties in Eastern North Carolina" what the Institute is, nor in the minds of "approximately 25% of the active pastors in the convention (who) have come under the ministry of the Institute," nor in the minds of the "more than 150 laymen" who have benefited by the Institute's ministry.

We are delighted to learn of the plans for future expansion of this needed teaching ministry, and we pledge our prayers for its success.

One more thing—and please, let none be offended. We would stand for the right of any of our ministers to wear what they desire, but let's be fair. It is our opinion that The Carolina Bible Institute is far more in keeping with the concept of what is and what is not Free Will Baptist than clerical vestments and collars.

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The Rev. C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Leighton Ford is an associate evangelist with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. This is a condensation of a recent text for The Hour of Decision radio program.

YOU CAN KNOW GOD

by Leighton Ford

IN June Billy Graham and his team returned to Toronto, Canada, for the second major crusade held in this major Canadian city.

I have many memories of that first Toronto Crusade in 1955. That was the time when I first joined the crusades as an associate evangelist. It hardly seems that 23 years can have gone by since then!

One of the highlights of the previous crusade was the introduction for the first time in North America of the hymn "How Great Thou Art". Since then it has become almost the most favorite of all songs by Bev Shea and the choirs.

Toronto also has many personal memories for me. I was born in this city. Only a few miles from there I was born again as a boy at a summer Bible conference. Many great Toronto preachers influenced my life as a young man. I also remember vividly that it was in Toronto I learned for the first time I was adopted.

On a cold November afternoon when I was about 12, my mother took me for a walk in a Toronto park. She carefully explained that she and my father had not **had** to have me; they had chosen me because they wanted me. From that time on I felt that it was a very special thing to be adopted.

During the last couple of years I have begun to wonder about my natural parents. Who are they? Are they still living? Do they know the Lord? Might they still be in Toronto? Is it possible they might have come to the Crusade? Will I ever meet them?

In our human souls there is a longing to know where we came from, our roots, our parentage, our identity. But an even greater longing, however, is to know our Heavenly Father, to have a personal knowledge of the God in whom we live and move and have our being.

Our prayer was that many thousands of Canadians would find their way home to God during those few days.

Two thousand years ago a little Jewish-Christian went to Athens and found a city gripped by a tremendous God-hunger. Paul the Apostle was in Athens waiting for some of his teammates to join him. While he waited, he walked around the city and he was deeply troubled by all the idols he saw everywhere. He began to have discussions in the synagogues and in the public square with the philosophers. These philosophers of Athens were intrigued by Paul and the new "foreign religion" he seemed to be pushing, so they invited him to the forum at Mars Hill to tell them more about Jesus.

"Men of Athens," Paul began, "I noticed that you are very religious, for as I was out walking I saw your many altars." Among the "many altars", Paul said he found one with the inscription, "To the Unknown God" (Acts 17:22, 23). The Athenians had many altars honoring many Gods, but just in case they had missed one, they covered themselves with an altar to the "Unknown God"!

Likewise, the religious interest in our day shouldn't deceive us into thinking people are necessarily turning to the one living God taught in the Bible. Modern gods include all kinds of gurus and prophets and self-proclaimed messiahs. Like the Athenians, many people today are "very religious". They will try almost anything that comes along the spiritual pike but the real God is still unknown to them in a personal sense.

One young man told me, "God is just a kind of oblong blur in my mind." Perhaps that's the most common picture—a great Someone somewhere, but who He is and what He's like and how to find Him we don't know.

Now try to get this picture: Paul stands up in front of these brilliant, religious, cultured men of Athens and he boldly says, "(Listen). . .what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you" (Acts 17:23, NIV).

Paul begins to tell them about the true God. First, he says, He is "the God who made the world and everything in it." He is "Lord of heaven and earth" (v. 24). God is not, as some religions tell us, "everything that is." No, he **made** everything that is. "And," says Paul, "He is not served by human hands" (v. 25). God doesn't need anything from us.

Far from our supplying His needs, He supplies our every need. "He . . . gives all men life and breath and everything else," said Paul (v. 25).

And, he went on, this God who created all things has specifically created mankind. "From one man he made every nation of men" (v. 26). Before the Bible's God there is no room for any racial superiority.

Now Paul makes an interesting point. God, he says, who made all mankind, has "determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live" (v. 26). In other words, God doesn't just have a plan for the whole world; He has a destiny for you personally.

If it weren't for Him we wouldn't draw another breath or move a finger or even be! And further, Paul says, "we are (God's) children" (v. 28). We are lost from Him, separated children—separated from Him by our sin. So we were made for Him and within us He has put the desire to seek Him.

How do you seek him? Get down on your knees and talk to God from your heart and tell Him, "God, if You're really there,

Turn the Page

if I can know You, if You can communicate with me, I pray that You will show me the way to You.'' And then get a Bible and start to read with the Gospel of John, because the Bible contains God's message to mankind.

Now let me ask, suppose you were God and you wanted to communicate with man—how would you do it?

This is what God did. When we humans chose to ignore Him and live our own selfish way, God wanted to warn us of the terrible consequences and so He became man. He sent His Son Jesus Christ to show us His love and offer forgiveness by dying as a sacrifice for our sins and rising again. Jesus is the bridge to the Father. In Him you can find God and His eternal love and His destiny for your life.

We can't know Him unless we repent of our self-centered lives and turn from our sins and really let Him be God in our lives.

To confront God is to confront a choice. Will you turn, repent, go back find the error, and come to God? Or—will you go on the same old way and be separated from him forever?

The offer of life is God's.

The choice is up to you.

TODAY'S PUZZLE

by Nancy Matthews

What do these names have in common?

Find all listed names in puzzle, then use remaining letters for answer.

E	G	N	O	L	R	S	W	O	R	R	A	B	A	R
U	V	P	E	R	E	A	N	N	S	U	L	A	T	I
E	D	A	W	I	D	D	O	W	T	S	L	G	M	V
I	N	I	N	S	Y	T	E	R	I	S	E	J	W	E
O	R	K	E	S	N	R	S	A	L	N	R	O	D	N
L	A	N	C	A	S	T	E	R	L	R	R	Y	E	B
L	T	I	R	E	M	E	W	N	E	T	E	N	H	A
E	N	S	R	I	C	E	Y	O	Y	S	F	E	S	R
H	O	T	E	M	L	D	I	S	R	T	H	R	I	K
C	T	A	V	E	R	S	E	R	N	R	V	E	R	D
T	N	F	R	A	E	E	W	I	L	A	A	L	R	B
I	E	A	D	P	T	O	L	E	R	T	M	B	A	I
M	B	O	W	E	N	S	T	F	A	I	T	L	P	H
F	O	U	L	L	Y	R	E	N	Y	O	J	S	L	J
W	O	O	T	E	N	B	B	A	R	R	O	W	X	A

ALLMAN
A BARROW
J P BARROW
N B BARROW
BENTON
BOWEN
EVANS
FERRELL
G JOYNER
L S JOYNER
LANCASTER
LONG
MITCHELL
PARRISH
RICE
RIVENBARK
SNYDER
STILLEY
TOLER
WOODARD
WOOTEN

We Urge You to Make Plans to Attend the

Commissioning Service

OF FRED AND LINDA BAKER

Missionaries to the Philippines

Saturday, October 21, 6:00 P. M.

Mount Olive College Chapel

The Program

Organ Prelude
Hymn 281 "We've a Story to Tell"
Prayer
Solo "A Brand New Touch"
Recognition of Mission Board
Offering for Foreign Missions
Offertory Prayer
Commissioning of the Rev. and Mrs. Fred Baker, led by the Rev. Gary Bailey
Commissioning Prayer, the Rev. Henry Armstrong
Solo "My House Is Full"
MESSAGE, the Rev. Joseph Ingram
Hymn 361 "Wherever He Leads I'll Go"
Benediction, the Rev. Marvin Waters
Organ Postlude

Presiding, the Rev. C. F. Bowen
Organist, Gerald Herring
Soloist, Judy Dail
Accompanist, Louise Wainwright

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

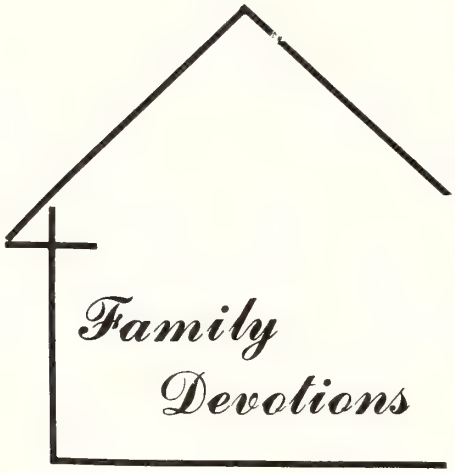


The Rev. Fred and Linda Baker and Children, Kim and Stevie

After months of deputation work among many of our churches in the state, the Fred Bakers are now ready to depart for their mission labors. On the above date you are invited to attend the commissioning of these servants, and as you do so you will experience the challenge they have already accepted. Join us and become a real part of the "Go Ye" Commission of Jesus Christ.

Refreshments Provided by

Free Will Baptist Fellowship
Mount Olive College



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

Scripture Reading—Revelation 2:5

CASE OF NANCY SYKES

In *Oliver Twist*, by Charles Dickens, we read the conversation between Rose Maylie, a beautiful, consistent, cultured woman, and Nancy Sykes, of the underworld, wife of Bill, a vile character.

Rose wants Nancy to quit her life of sin and become a Christian.

"No," says Nancy, "it cannot be. If years ago someone like you had touched my life, all might have been different. Now it is too late. Yet, Miss, if there were more like you, there would be fewer like me."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you talked to a lost soul and won him to Jesus? It is a wonderful feeling. How about carrying out the Lord's command today!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

Scripture Reading—1 Samuel 15:29

WINE AND THE WINDOW

Not long ago, a beautiful and cultured girl, a graduate of one of our great universities, flung herself out of a ten-story window in her home city. She had begun to go with the "fast set," who considered that it is smart and up-to-date to come home at three o'clock in the morning from cocktail parties. That night she took just a little too much and lost her grip on herself. One of the "great" American ladies, lecturing the girls at one of America's foremost women's colleges, told them that the intelligent young woman of today should know what her limit is—just how much liquor she can hold and still keep her poise; and to be careful not to go beyond that limit! Shades of the Bacchanalians! Think of that! Evidently the young woman, mentioned above, had failed to observe "her limit." She had spent a night of sin in that hotel, and when the gray morning came and she realized what she had done, and that she must face her proud family . . . the ten-story window drew her like a magnet. The police officer down there, holding back the crowd while he guarded her mangled form on the pavement, turned to an acquaintance and grimly said: "When you don't have God, there ain't nothin' to do but *jump*!" If the poor girl could have realized that morning that it was not a window, but a wide open "Door" she could have resorted to—even then how different it would have been!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Sometimes the sin of the world could even cause someone to lose his own life. But if the girl in the story had only turned to Jesus instead of killing herself, all her problems would have been over. God loves all people and cares for them.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

Scripture Reading—Matthew 3:2

HOW CHRISTIAN DIES

An evangelist, seriously sick, sent for the Roman Catholic priest to visit him immediately. A friendship had grown up between the Methodist evangelist and the priest. The priest, thinking he wanted the last rites of the Catholic church, hurried to his bedside. To his surprise, he was greeted by him with, "I'm glad you came. I only wanted you to see how a Christian goes Home to his reward!" With a smile on his calm features, the evangelist passed out of life. Said the priest, "I would give anything I had to die like that. I often fear to close my eyes not knowing where I shall open them."

PRAYER THOUGHT

A Christian has that certain calmness that only comes to him by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. He has no fear of life and the wonders of it. He loves God with all his heart.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Scripture Reading—1 Kings 8:47

TOO LATE!

Late, late, so late! and dark the night and chill!
Late, late, so late! but we can enter still.
Too late, too late! ye cannot enter now.

No light had we; for that we do repent,
And learning this, the bridegroom will relent.
Too late, too late! ye cannot enter now.

No light! so late! and dark and chill the night!
O, let us in, that we may find the light!
Too late, too late! ye cannot enter now.

Have we not heard the bridegroom is so sweet?
O, let us in, though late, to kiss His feet!
Oh, no, too late! ye cannot enter now.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said that He has gone to prepare us a place for us. Are we ready to accept that place beside Him?

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

Scripture Reading—Mark 1:15

SHOULD NOT BE POSTPONED

In 1871 I preached a series of sermons on the life of Christ in old Farwell hall, Chicago, for five nights. I took Him from the cradle and followed Him up to the judgment hall, and on that occasion I consider I made as great a blunder as ever I made in my life. It was upon that memorable night in October, and the courthouse bell was sounding an alarm of fire, but I paid no attention to it. You know we were accustomed to hear the fire-bell often, and it didn't disturb us much when it sounded. I finished the sermon upon "What Shall I Do with Jesus?" and said to the audience:

"Now I want you to take the question with you and think it over, and next

Sunday I want you to come back and tell me what you are going to do with Him."

What a mistake! It seems now as if Satan was in my mind when I said this. Since then I never have dared give an audience a week to think of their salvation. If they were lost, they might rise up in judgment against me. "Now is the accepted time."

I remember Mr. Sankey singing, and how his voice rang when he came to that pleading verse:

"To-day the Saviour calls,
For refuge fly!
The storm of Justice falls,
And death is nigh!"

After the meeting we went home. I remember going down LaSalle street with a young man, and saw the glare of flames. I said to the young man:

"This means ruin to Chicago."

About one o'clock Farwell hall was burned; soon the church in which I had preached went down, and everything was scattered. I never saw that audience again.

PRAYER THOUGHT

One should never postpone the moment of salvation, because he never knows when his life will end. He should always be willing to accept Christ and His love.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

Scripture Reading—Luke 13:3

WHO HAS FOUND WHOM?

In the timber mountains of the Northwest a five-year-old was lost. Night came. The citizens and rangers were searching the caves and mountainsides for him. Snow began to fall. All night the snow laid its blankets, but no Bobby could be found. The next morning the sun came out, and the storm ceased. A weary father decided to come in for a cup of coffee, and when he was within half a mile of home he kicked against what seemed to be a log in the path, but when the snow was jarred a small boy stretched, yawned sat up from under his snow blankets, and exclaimed, "Oh, Daddy! I've found you at last." Now who found whom? Mortals have an inherited phrase—"So-and-so found the Lord." But the Lord has never been lost! Men talk about the search for God. He has asked us to search the Scriptures and to seek His will, but when it comes to salvation it is God who reaches out for us.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Yes, God does reach out for His children, just as He searched for His lost sheep. He loves everyone.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

Scripture Reading—Revelation 2:16

MISDIRECTED

A terrible blizzard was raging over the eastern part of the states, making more and more difficult the progress of a train that was slowly making its way along.

Among the passengers was a woman with a child, who was much concerned lest she should not get off at the right station. A gentleman, seeing her anxiety, said:

"Do not worry. I know the road well, and I will tell you when you come to your station."

In due course the train stopped at the station before the one at which the woman wanted to get off.

"The next station will be yours, ma'am," said the gentleman.

Then they went on, and in a few minutes the train stopped again.

"Now is your time, ma'am; get out quickly he said.

The woman took up her child, and thanking the man, left the train. At the next stop, the brakeman called out the name of the station where the woman had wished to get off.

"You have already stopped at this station," called the man to the brakeman. "No, sir," he replied, "something was wrong with the engine, and we stopped for a few moments to repair it!"

"Alas!" cried the passenger, "I put that woman off in the storm when the train stopped between stations!" Afterwards, they found her with her child in her arms. Both were frozen to death! It was the terrible and tragic consequence of wrong direction being given! Still more terrible are the results of misdirecting souls!

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of us notice other people? How many of us pattern our lives after someone? How many of us don't go to church because someone else doesn't?

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

Coming Events . . .

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month

October 18—Mount Olive Singers to appear on Peggy Mann show aired on WTVD-Durham, Channel 11, at 1 p. m.

October 18, 19—Eastern Conference, Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul

October 20-22—Fall Break, Mount Olive College

October 26—Annual Pierson Lecture set for 8 p. m. in the Mount Olive College auditorium.

October 27-29—Mount Olive College students to attend Religious Life Retreat in Oriental.

October 29—Mount Olive Day in local churches

NOTICE

Please send your material which is needed for the Yearbook, 1979, as soon as possible. It will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks,
Editorial department

EXPRESS APPRECIATION



Dr. W. Burkette Raper, James B. Hunt Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rhodes, and Miss Louise Edgerton.

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, and James B. Hunt Sr., College Board Chairman, presented a certificate of appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rhodes of Beulaville, following a luncheon honoring the Rhodes' gift of their 78-acre farm to Mount Olive College under a unitrust agreement. Miss Louise Edgerton, right, is secretary to the College Board.

The unitrust agreement will provide the Rhodes with an assured income for life and thereafter be used to benefit others through Christian higher education.

COLLEGE DINNERS SET FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

The following county dinners to benefit Mount Olive College have been scheduled in October and November. As College Dinners are planned the information will be listed in the FREE WILL BAPTIST.

BEAUFORT COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 7 p. m., Chocowinity High School, Oscar Webster, chairman.

CARTERET COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 6:30 p. m., East Carteret High School, Reginald Styron and Nathan Garner, co-chairman.

CRAVEN COUNTY—Monday, October 23, 7 p. m., Sudan Temple, New Bern, Miss Marice DeBruhl, chairman.

DUPLIN COUNTY—Saturday, November 4, 6 p. m., East Duplin High School, William E. Futch, chairman.

EDGECOMBE-HALIFAX COUNTIES—Thursday, November 2, 7:30 p. m., First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, Rufus Harrell, chairman.

JOHNSTON-WAKE COUNTIES—Monday, November 6, 7 p. m., Smithfield-Selma High School, Dallas Pinkham, chairman.

JONES COUNTY—Monday, October 30, 7 p. m., King's Barbecue Restaurant in Kinston, Miss Margaret Carol Banks, chairman.

NASH COUNTY—Thursday, October 19, 7 p. m.; Middlesex Elementary School, Barry Gardner, chairman.

ONSLOW-NEW HANOVER COUNTIES—Thursday, October 26, 7 p. m., Folkstone church, Leonard Hobbs, chairman.

PAMLICO COUNTY—Saturday November 18, 6:30 p. m., Camp Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, chairman.

PITT COUNTY—Tuesday, November 14, 7 p. m., D. H. Conley High School, Gary Bailey, chairman.

SAMPSON, HARNETT CUMBERLAND COUNTIES—Thursday, November 16, 7 p. m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, chairman.

WASHINGTON, MARTIN, TYRELL, and PASQUOTANK COUNTIES—Tuesday, November 7, 7:30 p. m., Washington County Union School, David Cahoon, chairman.

WILSON COUNTY—Tuesday, November 21, 7 p. m., Beddingfield School, James B. Hunt Sr., chairman.

MAJOR GIFTS GIVEN TO MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

A major gift given to Mount Olive College by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rhodes of Beulaville has been announced by President W. Burkette Raper and Board Chairman James B. Hunt Sr.

The Rhodes gift consists of a seventy-eight-acre farm in Duplin County given to the College under terms of a unitrust agreement.

"We had originally planned to make provisions in our wills for Mount Olive College," Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes said, "but after learning about the life-income program of the College, we decided to make the gift now."

The unitrust with Mount Olive College will provide the Rhodes with an assured income for life and thereafter will be used to benefit others through Christian higher education.

The Rhodes expressed their confidence in the administration and Board

of Trustees at Mount Olive College, saying, "We believe in Mount Olive and the work it is doing to provide Christian higher education for the young people of the Free Will Baptist Church and all of eastern North Carolina."

Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes are life-time residents of Duplin County and members of Cabin Free Will Baptist Church.

"We have been God's tenants during this life and now we are reporting to him with the fruits of our labors," Mrs. Rhodes explained.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, in Greene County on Sunday, October 22 at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Walter Reynolds is pastor.

MRS. RILEY TO SPEAK

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, will speak at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, near Greenville, Sunday, October 22 at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Tommy Evans is pastor.

HARRISON TO SPEAK

Frank R. Harrison, Chaplain and Acting Dean of Students at Mount Olive College, will speak at White Oak Gree Will Baptist Church in Bladenboro on Sunday, October 22 at the 11 a. m. worship service.

MISS CASTELLOE TO SPEAK

Miss Caroline Castelloe, Mount Olive College Math Professor, will speak at Mount Olive College Day to be held at Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church in Carteret County Sunday, October 22 at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Jerry Rowe is pastor.

PAUL PALMER OFFERS SECOND TERM

The second term of courses offered through the Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies will begin Monday, October 23 on the Mount Olive College campus.

The eight-week courses include Basic Communications Skills at 7 p. m. and Old Testament or Church History at 8:30 p. m.

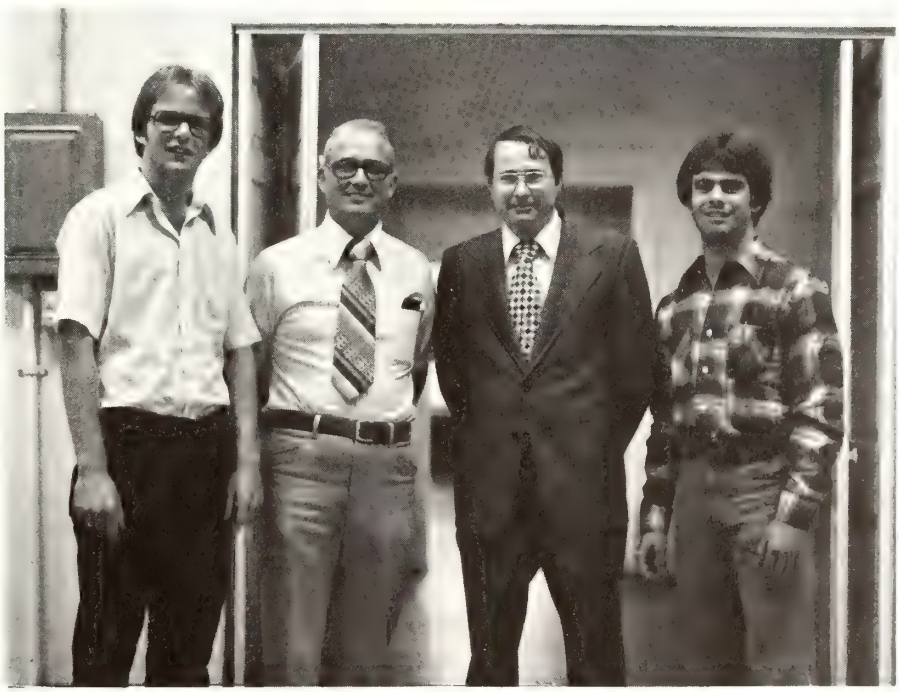
Certificates are awarded for the completion of either the Basic or the Advanced Curriculum.

The Basic Curriculum offers a broad selection of courses for laypersons who desire to become better informed and equipped for leadership roles in the local church or who simply want to enrich their lives through the study of the Bible. the Church and the Christian faith.

The Advanced Curriculum is designed to enable ministers to meet the educational requirements set by the conferences and administered by the ordaining councils. Ordained ministers will find that many of these courses can provide valuable experiences in continuing education.

For more information, contact Frank R. Harrison, Director, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; phone (919) 658-2502.

HUMPHREY VISITS MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



Phil Boykin, Dr. Michael Pelt, J. Stewart Humphrey and David Hines

The Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey, Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home and Retirement Homes, addressed the Free Will Baptist Fellowship and Kappa Chi organizations on the Mount Olive College campus recently. His topic was entitled "The Art and Science of Helping People".

From left are, Phil Boykin from Marsh Swamp church near Wilson, President of the Free Will Baptist Fellowship; Dr. Michael Pelt, Mount Olive College Professor and advisor of Kappa Chi; Humphrey; and David Hines, from Winterville church, vice-president of Kappa Chi.

NEWS & NOTES

Marlboro Church Honors Former Clerk



Mrs. Alice C. Parker

Mrs. Alice C. Parker was recently honored by Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church for twenty-two years of faithful service as church clerk. Mrs. Parker was greeted upon arrival at the church by the pastor, who presented her with a corsage. During the morning worship service she was recognized for her outstanding service to her church. She was presented a study edition of the Bible for her personal use. Mrs. Parker also received a certificate commemorating the occasion.

Mrs. Parker's children and other members of her family were present at the special service. Beautiful flowers were placed in the sanctuary in her honor by her children. The pastor also recognized Mrs. Parker as an example of devoted Christian service. It was a day to say thank you to Mrs. Parker.

Mrs. Parker served as clerk during the term of four pastors. She kept the church records during the time of two major building programs. As Mrs. Parker recorded the history of Marlboro church over the past twenty-two years she has been a major figure in that history. In the last minutes that she recorded she stated, "I did it because I love my Lord and my church." Mrs. Geraldine Garner was elected as the new clerk of Marlboro church.

Mount Zion Church, Kenly
Revival in Progress

Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Kenly, is having revival services October 16-20 with the Rev. Jimmy Barfield as evangelist. Prayer service is at 7:30 p. m. with regular services at 7:45 p. m. Homecoming Sunday will follow on October 22 with Mount Zion's pastor, the Rev. J. B. Godwin, bringing the message. Dinner will be served on the grounds following the morning service. A song service will begin at 1 p. m. with many groups participating. Everyone is invited to come and join in the revival and homecoming activities.

Revival in Progress
Memorial Church

Revival began at Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, near Chocowinity, on Monday, October 15, and will continue through Friday, October 20. The Rev. N. Bruce Barrow is the evangelist. Services begin at 8 p. m., and special singing is featured nightly. The pastor, the Rev. Roy Cauley, and the congregation extend a warm welcome to everyone to attend the remainder of these services.

Revival Services
Saint Mary's Church, Kenly

Revival services will begin at Saint Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, near Kenly, Monday night, October 23, through Friday night, October 27. Prayer rooms will open each evening at 7:15 and services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Joseph H. Ingram, Director-Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, will be the visiting evangelist. The Rev. Leslie Hawley, pastor, and the church extend a special invitation to everyone to worship during these services.

Revival in Progress
Hull Road Church

Revival is in progress at the Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church, near Snow Hill, October 16 through 20. The time is 7:30 p. m. A nursery is provided. The Rev. C. L. Patrick is the evangelist. The Rev. Leon Grubbs is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Eastwood Church
Revival Services

Revival services are being held at Eastwood Free Will Baptist Church, in Fayetteville, October 16-20. Services begin at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Harry Mintz, pastor of Pisgah church, Canton, North Carolina, is the evangelist. There will be special singing each night. Everyone is welcome.

Fourth Central District Union
Spring Branch Church

The Fourth Central District Union will meet at the Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, on October 29. The program is as follows:

10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "Follow On"
—Welcome, Mrs. Ruby Ellis
—Response, Larry Letchworth
11:15—President's Remarks
—Mission Report
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College News
11:30—Special Music, Peace Free Will Baptist Church
—Sermon, the Rev. Royce Reynolds
—Appointment of Committees

12:15—Lunch

Afternoon Session
1:15—Hymn, "How Great Thou Art"
—Devotion, Gary Holland
—Special Music, Aspen Grove
—Business Period
—Program, Local Church
2:15—Adjournment

Spring Hope Ladies Have Bazaar

Spring Hope Ladies Auxiliary Auxiliary, Route 5, New Bern, will have a bazaar on October 21 beginning at 9 a. m. at the parking lot of the Shrine Building on Boad Street in New Bern, just off the Neuse River Bridge. There will be new things and old things. There will also be sweet things—pies, cakes, and candy. Money from this bazaar will go on the fellowship building for the church. Everyone is invited to come out and support this event.

Haunted House Opens For Cragmont

The YFA of Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church, near Walstonburg, will sponsor a haunted house during the Halloween season. All proceeds will go toward honoring a pledge of $3,500 on the new Cragmont building.

The haunted house will open for the first time on October 20 and 21 at 7:30 p. m. The admission price will be $1 per person. Other dates to visit the house are: October 26, 27, 28, 30, and 31. The haunted house is located in a field near Walstonburg. Transportation will be furnished from Spring Branch church.

Homecoming at Friendship Church, Middlesex

Homecoming services will be observed at Friendship Original Free Will Baptist Church of Route 1, Middlesex, North Carolina, Sunday, October 22, 1978. Sunday School will begin at 10 a. m. The morning worship service will begin at 11 a. m. with the Rev. Edward Miles, pastor of Casey's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church of Goldsboro, North Carolina, bringing the message. Lunch will be served in the fellowship building at noon. After lunch there will be a song service featuring groups from neighboring churches. A hearty welcome is extended to all former pastors, former members, and friends to come and join in the fellowship.

Stanley Jenkins Presented Plaque



Stanley Jenkins

In a recent Sunday morning worship service at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Kinston, Mr. Stanley Jenkins was presented a plaque in appreciation and recognition of the outstanding job he had done as superintendent of the Sunday school. The plaque was presented by the Rev. Frank Crary, a long-time friend. Mr. Jenkins resigned this year after having served in this capacity for eight years. During his tenure, the Sunday school experienced growth and adopted new ideas and techniques that have proven to be for the advancement of the Sunday school and church as a whole. His son, William, has succeeded him as superintendent of the Sunday school.

Mr. Jenkins is a very active member of the First Free Will Baptist Church, having served on various committees and a majority of the official boards. He served six years on the Executive Board of the State Sunday School Convention, one year as Vice-President of the State Sunday School Convention and is currently serving as President of the State Sunday School Convention.

Mount Zion Church, Roper Revival Change

Revival services for Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Roper, will begin on Monday night, October 23, with the Rev. Earl Glenn from Goldsboro doing the preaching each night at 7:30. It will continue through October 28. Special singing is planned. The date was previously announced as October 16-21. Please note this change! The pastor and members of the church extend a special invitation to everyone.

Youth Sunday at Pleasant Plain Church

On October 22, Youth Sunday will be observed at Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church, near Selma. The Rev. Craig Simmons, youth pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson, will be guest speaker during the morning worship service. The Believers, a quartet from the Wilson church will provide special music. The young people will be in charge of the day's activities.

Revival at Rose Hill Church

Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, announces its fall revival beginning on Monday night, October 23 and continuing through Friday night, October 27. Services will begin at 7:45 nightly. There will be a different guest speaker each night. These include: The Revs. Gary Bailey, Walter Reynolds, C. H. Overman, Jack Mayo, and N. Bruce Barrow. Special music will be presented each night. The pastor, the Rev. N. Dan Beaman, and the church extend a warm welcome to everyone to attend.

Revival at Piney Grove Church, Greenville

Revival will be held at the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, 264 west of Greenville, beginning October 23 through October 27. The time of the service is 7:30 p. m. Ministerial students from Mount Olive College will be guest

(Continued on Next Page)

speakers. They include David Hines, Bryant Hines, Bruce Steadman, and Fred Johnson. The Rev. Tommy Evans is pastor of the church. Everyone is invited.

Revival in Progress
Sidney Church

The Rev. Charles Suggs from Goldsboro, North Carolina, is the speaker for revival services being conducted at Sidney Free Will Baptist Church, near Belhaven, through October 20. Services begin nightly at 7:30. The pastor is the Rev. Charles N. Parrish. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Homecoming at
Dilda's Grove Church

Dilda's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Fountain, will observe its annual homecoming on October 22. The Rev. Luther Bissette, pastor, will deliver the message. After the worship services, lunch will be served on the church grounds. An afternoon singing has been planned. All former members, pastors, and friends have a special invitation.

Sinspiration at
King's Cross Roads Church

King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, near Farmville, will have a singspiration on Sunday, October 29 (fifth Sunday) at 7:30 p. m. The Emmanuels from the First Free Will Baptist Church of Wilson will be featured. The pastor of the church is the Rev. Frank Brinson. Everyone is invited to attend.

Robert's Grove Church
Cape Fear Union Meeting

Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, near Dunn, will host the Cape Fear Union Meeting on Saturday, October 28. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, the Rev. Atlas Hogg
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, the Rev. Henry Armstrong
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominational Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offeratory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. Edward C. Taylor
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship

The officers for the union are: Moderator, the Rev. J. Walter Stanley; assistant moderator, the Rev. Edward C. Taylor, secretary, Mrs. Joyce Nowell; assistant secretary, Mrs. Frances Phillips; treasurer, H. T. Hinson; and hymn director, Johnnie Woodall.

Homecoming Day at
Marsh Swamp Church

Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Sims, will observe its annual homecoming on October 22. The Rev. A. B. Chandler is pastor. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. Morning worship service will be at 11 a. m. with the pastor bringing the morning message. Lunch will be served in the fellowship building. All former members, pastors, and friends are invited to attend.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MRS. MINNIE GARDNER

We, the women of Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Vanceboro, humbly submit the life of Minnie Gardner to the Heavenly Father, knowing that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord. See Romans 8:28.

Sister Minnie was born February 10, 1900, and was called home on September 8, 1978.

Sister Minnie's life has been an inspiration to us who labored with her in going about our Father's business. She showed the genuine quality of her redemptive experience with Christ in her labors of love.

Her kinship with our Saviour was proven by her constant service to Him. For the last few years, age and illness had slowed her up in many of her prior activities. She was still faithful in her prayer life. Her prayer life reached out to the young and the old. She witnessed right up to the day she was called home.

We will miss Sister Minnie very much, but we know that she was ready when the Master called, "Come home, my child, Heaven will be much sweeter with you here. Come home, and rest from your labors."

—Joyce Woolard
Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church

PICTURES WANTED

The Free Will Baptist Historical Society is interested in obtaining pictures of ministers and laymen who were active in the early history of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Anyone who has a picture of any of these men, or who knows someone who has a picture and could get it, is asked to notify Miss Leah McGlohon, P. O. Box 2, Winterville, North Carolina 28590 (telephone: 756-2621).

If the person who has the picture does not want to give it, a loan of the picture for copying would be greatly appreciated and it will be returned to the sender. A portrait, rather than a snapshot, is preferred. Please send the pictures immediately to the above address. They are needed so as to have time to make copies before the Thanksgiving service at the Children's Home on November 18. The Society will meet at the Children's Home on that date.

The list of pictures wanted is as follows:

Ministers

J. W. Alford	J. C. Griffin
J. R. Bennett	J. F. Hill
W R. Coats	B. P. Parks
J. F. Casey	M. C. Prescott
J. E. Davis	R. V. Self
B. B. Deans	L. H. Wetherington

Others

W. J. Braxton, Winterville
E. E. Dail, Central Conference
A. F. Dawson, Central Conference
L. B. Dunn
Dr. M. Hinnant, Micro
W. A. Jackson
R. L. Little, Grimesland
W. R. Sawyer, Eastern Conference
Tommie Sawyer, Eastern Conference

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For October 29

RIGHT RELATIONSHIPS WITH PARENTS

Lesson Text: Matthew 15:1-14; Exodus 20:12
Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 5:16

I. INTRODUCTION

"Young people brought up by moralizing adults are not prepared to make their own responsible choices." So says a humanist educator. In his opinion, children should be led to think the teaching of their parents may be mistaken. The purpose is to let the child choose for himself—but will the result be his own choice or that of his humanist teacher?

Humanists say, "We begin with humans, not God." This statement is from "Humanist Manifesto II," published some years ago. It says, "We can discover no divine purpose or providence for the human species. . . . No deity will save us; we must save ourselves." Children sometimes are torn between parents who point them to God and teachers who point them the other way.

There are multitudes of steadfast Christian teachers in our public and private schools. But there are also humanist teachers who think children should be taught to disregard both God and parents as they think for themselves. This makes it the more necessary for us to note again what the Bible says on this subject.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Be sure to deal with the historical circumstances out of which the Fifth Commandment came. Do we have similar circumstances today?

B. Children should make an honest effort to develop positive attitudes toward parents. This attitude should hold regardless of the age of the parents or the children.

C. What are some of the ways that children at different ages can show love and respect for the aged parents?

D. Each member of the family is important. This is true of the youngest child, and it is true of the oldest grandparent. Therefore, each member of the family should be respected.

E. This is a good place to deal with some of the advantages and some of the problems of a multigeneration family. We mean by this a family where parent, child, and grandparent all live under the same roof.

F. Today we come to study the Fifth Commandment. This is the first commandment in the second section of the Decalogue. The first section, containing the first four commandments, deals with our relationship to God. The second section of the commandments deals with our relationship to others. The Fifth Commandment is the only one to have a special promise attached to it. The great American preacher Talmadge has said, "Other sins may be adjourned to the next world for judgment, but the ill treatment of parents will be avenged in this."

G. When the scribes and Pharisees came to Jesus with a question about His disciples not keeping the traditions of the elders, He showed them that they were keeping the traditions of men, but were not keeping the written commandment of God. They were making use of a law established by the tradition of the elders called the law of Corban in which a child could claim that his material possessions had been promised to God. This would free him from supporting or helping his parents with these goods.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Note that the Ten Commandments are divided into two parts. The first four deal with our relationship to God; the other six with our relationship with other human beings. These lessons have not examined the commandments in the order in which they were given. We have taken them up in an order suitable to bringing out Jesus' interpretations of them as given in the gospels.

B. The Fifth Commandment, which begins the group dealing with our human relationships, concerns the relationships between children and parents. It has been described as the bridge connecting the commandments that deal with our relationship to God to those dealing with our relationship to other men. It emphasizes both relationships.

C. The home is the basic institution of all social relationships, and it has a basic religious meaning and purpose. Jesus is the highest revelation of God, but next to that stands God's revelation of Himself as Father. This places on the home, and particularly on parents, the grave responsibility of interpreting God's nature to children. We need to examine our homes and our hearts in the light of this commandment, as interpreted by Jesus, to see where we fall short and to decide how we are going to meet the standard.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A young woman greeted the new minister of her church with the statement that she never danced, played cards, attended the movies, or indulged in "necking." The preacher was duly impressed, until he observed that the young woman was envious, critical, fault-finding, and self-righteous. The person with the best voice is the one whose lips are truthful, helpful, and sincere.—Selected



RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
SEPTEMBER, 1978
TOTAL: $21,380.32

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Corinth	$ 263.85
Hickory Chapel	400.00
Malachi's Chapel	200.00
Mount Tabor	88.60
Mount Zion	100.00
Shiloh	50.00
Sidney	50.00
TOTAL	$1,902.14

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Daly's Chapel	$ 100.00
Goldsboro, First	500.00
Haymont	82.26
Hopewell	300.00
Johnston Union	250.00
Lee's Chapel	200.00
Oak Grove	200.00
Riverside	200.00
Robert's Grove	200.00
St. Mary's Grove	200.00
Shady Grove	200.00
Smyrna	200.00
TOTAL	$4,404.97

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 207.00
Ayden	55.00
Bethany	160.54
Black Jack	460.00
Community	150.00
Daniels Chapel	345.00
Dilda's Grove	516.38
Edgewood	385.00
Free Union	411.86
Friendship	358.35
Greenville, First	260.00
Gum Swamp	200.00
Harrell's Chapel	280.00
Hickory Grove	25.00
Howell Swamp	350.00
Hugo	225.00
King's Cross Roads	89.21
Marlboro	25.00
Owen's Chapel	150.00
Peace	100.00
Piney Grove (Pitt)	16.00
Reedy Branch	666.21
Rocky Mount	42.00
Rose Hill	200.00
Spring Branch	200.00
Tarboro, First	50.00
Walnut Creek	200.00
Winterville	530.67
TOTAL	$6,658.22

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Bridgeton	$ 123.00
Christian Chapel	200.00
Core Creek	284.41
Crab Point	15.00
Croatan	100.00
Davis	200.00
Deep Run	72.00
Dublin Grove	274.27
Ephesus	306.23
Friendship	57.34
Gethsemane	120.00
Grants Chapel	50.00
Gray Branch	200.00
Hillsberry	30.00
Holly Springs	300.00
Juniper Chapel	275.00
Kinston, First	90.00
Laniers Chapel	50.00
May's Chapel	200.00
Mount Zion	100.00
New Haven	231.58
Northeast	43.99
Oak Grove	135.00
Oriental	22.67
Pearsall Chapel	150.00
Rooty Branch	100.00
Sandy Plain	5.00
Sarecta	200.00
Snow Hill	200.00
St. Mary's	250.00
Trent	33.32
TOTAL	$4,418.81

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION

Beaverdam	$ 645.00
Oak Grove	275.00
White Oak	125.00
TOTAL	$1,043.00

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Baptist Road Cathedral	$ 20.00
East Rockingham	57.48
Heritage Mission	90.59
Hopewell	40.00
TOTAL	$ 208.07

TOE RIVER ASSOCIATION

Roaring Creek	$ 57.16
TOTAL	$ 57.16

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Barnes Hill	$ 125.00
Calvary	425.00
Everett Chapel	71.58
Fellowship	75.00
Free Union	200.00
Friendship	200.00
Kenly	260.00
Little Rock	70.00
Living Water	50.00
Marsh Swamp	55.00
Memorial Chapel	125.00
Micro	200.00
Milbournie	161.23
Mount Zion (Wilson)	200.00
Youth Fellowship	25.00
New Sandy Hill	100.00
Oak Grove	343.50
People's Chapel	185.00
Piney Grove	15.00
Pine Level	5.00
Pleasant Grove	510.00
Pleasant Hill	201.06
Rains Cross Roads	150.00
Rock Springs	150.00
Rosebud	5.00
Selma	50.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	400.00
Stancil's Chapel	247.98
St. Mary's	25.00

Stoney Creek	50.00
Union Chapel	32.50
Union Grove	67.50
Unity (Durham)	25.00
Watson's Grove	75.00
TOTAL	$5,030.35

OTHER STATES

Cazy Young Mothers	$ 20.00
Bim Ladies Aid	10.00
Boone County Youth	25.00
TOTAL	$ 55.00

STATEWIDE

Convention (Loose Offering)	$ 125.00
TOTAL	$ 125.00

THANKSGIVING SERVICES AT THE CHILDREN'S HOME

Our annual Thanksgiving service will be held November 18, 1978, at 10:30 a. m. in Memorial Chapel. This years services will be held jointly with the Free Will Baptist Historical Society. The service will be one of praise and thanksgiving to God for promises fulfilled during the 63 years since the idea of a children's home originated in the minds of our forefathers. Our major address of the day will reflect on those first fifteen years of our history. There will be picture displays, original minutes and other historical materials of interest. The children will be presenting special music for the service.

Our oldest existing structure is the old pumphouse. It was erected in those early years. The pumphouse has been chosen by the Alumni Association and the Historical Society as a restoration project. The effort to establish this building as a historic site will be formerly begun at this day of thanksgiving.

Come one and all, bring a picnic lunch, and tour the campus. The Historical Society will have its formal meeting in the afternoon and you are invited to this meeting also.

Last year around 400 people came to the Children's Home to bring their offerings and to praise God for His faithfulness. We hope you will be with us this year to celebrate "God's Promise Fulfilled!"

MEMORIAL GIFTS SEPTEMBER, 1978 TOTAL: $110.00

GIVEN BY:	IN MEMORY OF:
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Tyndall	Mr. Rudolph Deaver
Dublin Grove church	Mrs. Josephine Hudnell
Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Pittman	Mrs. Alene D. Barfield
Miss Elizabeth Redding	Mr. William A. Davis
W. S. Williams Insurance Agency	Mr. Greg Stone and Mr. Randy Murphy
Mr. and Mrs. William E. Tyndall	Mr. W. B. Warren
Mrs. Lucy Davis	Mrs. Cathy Dollar
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Daly	Mr. T. C. May

MISSIONS

CHURCH EXTENSION ON THE ROAD

by Taylor Hill



Pictured beautifying the church grounds are: Vickie Register in the foreground, her mother, Yvonne Jordan, and Senie Williams.

A beautiful sight I think best describes my feeling about this picture. I captured this scene at Shady Grove church near Spivey's Corner while en route to Pleasant Grove church in Pikeville, North Carolina.

It is always a pleasure to see people working for Jesus regardless of what type of work it might be.

I proceeded to Pleasant Grove to pick up some hymnals for Home Missions and Church Extension: the pastor, the Rev. James Lupton, reports that the Pleasant Grove church is in good shape and moving forward.

DON'T GRIEVE THE PREACHER!

In this sinful world no church or preacher is perfect; therefore, it is easy to find fault with the Lord's servants. But God is not pleased when we dishonor those who by His grace and calling are responsible for feeding His flock and watching for our spiritual welfare. We are to obey them in all things spriptural show respect for their high office, and praise them for their self-sacrificing service. Sometimes we don't appreciate the many demands placed upon men of God. The minister that is a pastor of a church teaches, although he must often solicit his own classes. He's a social worker, a counselor, a salesman, and a decorative piece for most church functions. He visits the sick, marries people, officiates at funerals, consoles those in sorrow, and admonishes the wayward. He plans programs, appoints committees (when he can get people to serve), and spends considerable time tactfully keeping members of the congregation from angry disagreement. In addition to all this, he must find opportunity to study and prepare sermons, and then preach on Sunday, the Lord's Day, to those who do not or should not have a more pressing engagement. Above all, on Monday he is expected to have grace to smile when some jobial chap slaps him on the back and exclaims, "What a job-just one day a week!" With all the weights of eternal matters resting on the shoulders of Christian leaders, let's assist and encourage them so they may fulfill their heavenly calling with joy. If you want God's approval, don't grieve the preacher!

—Evangelist Arnold Woodlief
Marianna, Florida

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS



Pictured left to right: back row, the Revs. Bruce Dudley, Robert May, William J. Godwin; front row, David C. Hansley, Floyd Cherry, Gary Bailey, not pictured Mrs. Frank Walston.

The newly elected Executive Committee of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists held its first meeting recently at the Holiday Inn of Smithfield. The committee began its work by reviewing the work of the convention that met in Fayetteville. The committee studied the minutes of that convention, with particular attention to the recommendations and resolutions passed in that session.

President David Charles Hansley hearalded the 1978 session of The North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists as one of the largest and best ever held. According to the report of the credentials committee there were 109 ministers, 236 delegates, 84 visitors including resresentatives from the Paul Palmer Conference in Georgia and the Association of General Baptists that registered for the convention. The report shows a total registered attendance of 509; however, it was estimated that there was an attendance in excess of 1,000 people at the convention.

Cumberland Memorial Auditorium provided a meeting place that was both comfortable and convenient. Ministers and delegates found ample parking and were greeted in the lobby by people involved in the work of our denomination as they manned displays of the various aspects of our work. The displays included a bookstore operated by the Free Will Baptist Press. A bound book of reports made it easier for those in attendance to keep up with the proceedings and to share with their churches when they returned home. The proceedings moved in an orderly manner and the auditorium provided a full-time employee to make sure that everyone could hear all of the proceedings on and off stage. Lunch was catered and seating was provided on both days. It was noted that there were a higher percentage of delegates in attendance of the Thursday session than in previous years.

The churches, delegates, ministers, and guests contributed over $39,000 to our denominational work during the convention and mission rally. The convention also adopted a five-year program of evangelism. The Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina will be involved in an effort to carry the gospel message. We need to see our churches grow. Each church is to participate at the local level. The Convention set a goal of one new member for every twenty members presently on roll for each year. The Executive Committee is making plans for a statewide Evangelism Conference to help unite our effort and to provide motivation as well as instruction in methods that will assist the local church in evangelism.

The Executive Committee has begun the work for a new year. They will keep Free Will Baptists informed concerning their work through this paper. Free Will Baptists should pray for the work of our Convention and the Executive Committee as they serve our denomination.

F85Tw

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

CHURCH OF THE MONTH

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

DUKE UNIVERSITY
OCT 25 19
DURHAM, N. C.

Free Union Free Will Baptist Church

Walstonburg, North Carolina
C. L. Patrick, Pastor



Cover Photo by
Walter Reynolds

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Volume 93 Number 42

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The Rev. C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

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Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

WELCOME BACK, HAROLD AND SANDRA

The Rev. Harold Jones is back where he belongs and is happy in the thriving pastorate of Living Waters Free Will Baptist Church near Pikeville, North Carolina, one of our most mission-minded churches of the Western Conference, and has been there for some months.

Nothing could please us more.

On October 20, 1969, Harold and Sandra Jones departed for the Philippines as our missionaries, coming home on furlough after about four years. Afterward they returned to the Philippines, but in October 1974, Mr. Jones made a decision involving a doctrinal matter contrary to the basic teachings of our denomination.

In perhaps the saddest session of the Foreign Mission Board we have ever had, the Rev. Joseph Ingram, missions director, read Mr. Jones' statements of his decision "to practice and to preach" the doctrine of speaking in tongues. The mission board accordingly recognized his right to do so, but not in the capacity of a Free Will Baptist missionary under our sponsorship.

Regrettably the mission board released the Joneses from any further active service in our foreign mission work, and in good faith Mr. Jones duly and voluntarily surrendered his ministerial credentials to the ordaining council of his conference.

The gap Harold and Sandra left was soon filled—and adequately so—by the Rev. and Mrs. Wayne King. We have praised God for His timely leadership many times. In the meantime, Mr. Jones offered whatever help he could to the Kings and then returned to the states for other work.

Well, that is all in the past, and it seems so long ago. God does move to work His flawless will in the lives of His surrendered servants, for that was not the end of the story.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find an open letter from Mr. Jones addressed to "all Free Will Baptists." This letter speaks for itself and is characterized by the genuine humility and honesty one would expect from Mr. Jones under **any** circumstances. He has exercised a grace and courage so often rare among God's children, and we love him and Sandra all the more for it. We encourage you to read this letter.

Incidentally, in the recent session of the Western Conference a report from the ordaining council was approved and Harold Jones' credentials have been returned to him. May the rest of us show the same spirit of Christian love and brotherhood and understanding.

Nothing has happened this month that makes us happier. May the good Lord bless this fine couple as they serve Him in Wayne County, or wherever He may decide.

THE CHURCH OF THE MONTH

FREE Union Free Will Baptist Church was formally organized at Free Union Meeting House in Greene County, North Carolina. November 4, 1843. Since a meeting house was already in existence, it is likely that worship services had been carried on for several years prior to the organization of church, probably under the leadership of Elder Jacob Utley who presided at the organization of the church.

Elder James Moore was elected at the first pastor of the church and served for nearly thirty-two years. Calvin Ruff, who later was ordained to the Gospel ministry, was elected as the first clerk of the church.

During the early days of the church, many Greene County families were saved at Free Union; and today we can trace back through the church records to show that seven generations in some families have been active in the work of the church. The records also show that prior to the Civil War, Christian slave owners brought their slaves to church with them and received them into the church as members.

In the church minutes numerous accounts of some action against those of both races who were unruly, lax in attendance or guilty of immoral conduct are recorded. After the Civil War, our colored brethren still worshiped at Free Union until they were able to organize their own churches.

When the Conference met at Free Union in 1872, Elder James Moore was accorded the unusual privilege of selecting all the officers for the Conference. On another occasion in the Conference minutes, he is referred to as "our aged father." Elder Moore was a leader in the fight against secret orders and was strong in his stand for the right of the local church to conduct its own affairs. Thus from the beginning Free Union was blessed by having one of the ablest and most highly respected pastors of that day.

In 1902 a new church building was built. Since Free Union was a growing church the building was enlarged in 1921-22 and again in 1948. This building has since been enlarged and renovated and is now used as an educational building.

In 1948 the church called the Rev. C. L. Patrick as pastor to preach first Sunday of each month. The next year services were increased to include third Sundays. During the year 1952, an eight-room parsonage was built and the church began a full program of Christian service.

Because the Lord blessed and the people had a mind to work, the old facilities were soon inadequate. In January 1955 construction of a new brick veneer church, including a baptistry and four additional Sunday school rooms, was begun. Mrs. W. C. Hinson laid the first brick. Much of the work was done by members and friends of the church. Beautiful Gothic memorial windows were installed. As the building neared completion, it was completely furnished with a new piano and Gothic-style furniture in russet oak. The Woman's Auxiliary covered the center aisle and pulpit with a beautiful wool carpet.

First services were held in the new church Easter Sunday, 1957. The new building and all the furniture were dedicated to God December 7, 1958 with no indebtedness remaining.

In 1965 the parsonage was enlarged, completely renovated and brick veneered making it one of the nicest parsonages in the denomination.

A new fellowship building was completed in 1973. It contains a well-furnished kitchen, two rest rooms, a storage room and a large well-furnished area for dining and fellowship.

In 1977 a beautiful steeple was purchased through the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, North Carolina. With the steeple pointing toward Heaven and the sound of music pouring forth from the chimes that can be heard for two miles away, may God be praised.

The following have served as pastors of Free Union church: James Moore, Jesse Shackelford, R.P. Hill, G.W. Davis, L. T. Phillips, Alonza Tyson, J.R. McCaskey, C.J. Harris, M. E. "Jack" Tyson, M.C. Prescott, L.R. Ennis, D.A. Windham, D.W. Alexander, N. D. Wiggs, W.L. Mortez, D.W. Hansley and C. L. Patrick. Mr. Patrick has served continuously as pastor since 1948.

On November 5, 1978 Free Union will observe her one hundred and thirty-fifth anniversary with Homecoming Services followed by lunch in the fellowship building. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend this special event in the life of Free Union church.

The information contained in the article on Free Union church as The Free Will Baptist Church of The Month was gathered from "History of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina" by Harrison and Barfield, the minutes of Free Union Church and from personal knowledge.

Yours in His Service
C. L. Patrick

How to Preach to Keep People from Getting Saved

By C.F. Bowen

Evangelistic sermons should be preached with the urgency to win lost souls to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If this is true, and indeed it is, why is it that so many unsaved people in our congregations are never won to Christ? Could it be that the nature of our messages has something to do with it?

Our pulpit mannerisms may be gracious, our enthusiasm unbounding, and our sermon presentation flawless; but unless the purpose of our message is definitely positive and intended to lead to repentance of sin and faith in Christ's power to save to the uttermost, the result may be quite negative.

The title of this piece is "How to Preach to Keep People from Getting Saved, " and you readily see that it suggests negative rather than positive purposes in our preaching.

We intended it to be that way.

Now, let us look at some of these negative purposes, and perhaps by exploring them carefully we may be inclined to find more positive approaches to the preaching of evangelistic messages. If you are ready, so am I.

How do you preach to keep people from getting saved? First, **you preach about sin but never mention the particular sins of your hearers.** You just sort of swing at "sin" in general, but be sure not to single out particular sins by name.

You know sinners sin and you also know what those sins are. If you have any troubles with this, just start with the Ten Commandments; somebody is bound to find out that he has broken at least one or two of them. But if you don't want to see him get saved, avoid the Commandments; they can get rather rough at times and may succeed in disturbing what little conviction of sin the choir's special number may have created.

Here's something else to remember: the unsaved person knows that church members sin, and unless he hears you preach at least once a year against these sins, naming them without batting an eye, he will certainly be unimpressed by the rest you have to say.

If you don't want sinners saved, just speak of sin as some kind of "social maladjustment;" don't speak of it as the ugly. degraded, vile, soul-killing thing that it really is. Just forget that the Bible says, ". . . all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), and that ". . . he that believed not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God" (John 3:18). Besides, the devil wouldn't like that, and you would be surprised how many people would never come to Christ.

Second, **preach without any evidence of honest concern for the souls of the unsaved.** That unsaved man will discover rather quickly that you may be more interested in just getting the service over and done with than in caring for the welfare of his soul. After all, you've got that golf game this afternoon.

The well-prepared, well-presented message will have much less effect upon the sinner than that sincere tear in your voice. That tear will speak greater concern than would hours of dissertation on some subject which would never reach his mind, much less his heart.

Third, **preach in such a way that you will sound like a professional orator.** A church member commented to her new pastor after the service, "You sound like you are a product of some seminary." He took it as a compliment, which would be quite understandable. But using fifteen-syllable words which few would understand, perhaps including yourself, just to show how much you have "learned," is a sure way to turn the sinner off.

After all, isn't it better to say, "Be sure your sins will find you out" than to say, "It is confidently inevitable that your iniquitous malfeasance will reveal yourself for what you are?"

Fourth, **preach as though you don't believe what you are saying.** If you really don't believe that people without Christ are lost; if you really don't believe that if they die in their sins they will go to hell; if you really don't believe that if they sin away their day of grace they have no further hope—if you don't believe these things are eternal verities, then you will not easily convince others that they are.

Each time before he walks into the pulpit to preach it would be well for every preacher to read again John 3:18, and ask God to impress upon his heart the gravity of these words.

What we have talked about is negative preaching. With such preaching it is no wonder that ". . . hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure . . ." (Isaiah 5:14), to receive those we may have caused to turn from Christ instead of coming to Him.

By the way, what about **positive** preaching? That's simple. Just take each of the four points given above and reverse them. This time you will be surprised at how many will get saved in your services. You see, when you preach positively, the Holy Spirit takes over where you leave off.

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL FREE WILL BAPTISTS FROM: HAROLD JONES

Dear Christian Friends,

In October 1974 I made a decision that completely disrupted God's plan for my life. I learned by time and experience that the decision was wrong.

I would like to apologize to the Free Will Baptist Denomination for the problems and heartache this caused. Especially do I express this to the Rev. Joseph Ingram and the Foreign Mission Board for the problems created in the missions program by that decision.

I reaffirm my belief in Free Will Baptist doctrine, and assure you that I will not deviate from our doctrine. That decision was the first time I can recall ever doing anything so rash and completely unnecessary.

I personally want to thank the Western Conference Ordaining Board for reinstating me as a Free Will Baptist minister when I shared this with them on May 3, 1978.

Since it is impossible to turn back time and erase this unpleasant episode, I hope in some way this will heal the wounds that were caused.

God bless each of you is my prayer.

Sincerely in Christ,
Harold Jones

NOTICE: WESTERN CONFERENCE OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS TO ALL SISTER CONFERENCES

John Melancon has voluntarily surrendered his credentials to the Western Conference Board of Ordination and is no longer affiliated with the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The licenses to preach of the following are terminated: Fred Dawes, Johnny Skinner, Dwight Gay and James W. Tant.

The following have been granted licenses to preach for one year by the Western Conference: Dan Jordan, Unity Church (Wilson County); John Pittman, Selma Church; and John Boykin, Mount Zion Church (Wilson County).

Rev. Clyde Cox, Chairman
Rev. De W. Eakes, Clerk
Western Conference Board of Ordination

BALLARD LEAVES HOSPITAL

The Rev. L.E. Ballard, who has undergone major surgery at the Pitt County Memorial Hospital, has returned to his home. He would welcome a visit from his friends and would be delighted to receive a card from you. His address is 1225 Washington Street, Greenville, North Carolina 27834.

Coming Events . . .

October—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Superannuation Month
October 26—Annual Pierson Lecture set for 8 p. m. in the Mount Olive College auditorium
October 27-29—Mount Olive College students to attend Religious Life Retreat in Oriental
October 29—Mount Olive Day in local churches
October 29—Second Union of the Western Conference will meet with Rock Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Bailey, at 7 p. m.
November—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month
November 2—Cape Fear Conference, Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church, near Dunn
November 8—Central Conference, Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church, near Snow Hill
November 11—High School Day for Seniors, 10 a. m. to 3 p. m. on the Mount Olive College Campus
November 12—Children's Home Day in Local Churches
November 15—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 11 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex
November 15—Board of Directors of Retirement Homes Meeting, 1 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex
November 18—Thanksgiving Service, 10:30 a. m., Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex
November 21—Founder's Day, 11 a. m. worship service, Mount Olive College
November 23—Thanksgiving Day
November 23—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston
November 23-26—Thanksgiving Holidays, Mount Olive College

I BELIEVE— FOR A FRIEND

The Little Lord's Army came into the church. They said, "We want to sing 'I Believe' for Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Boyd."

"I Believe"—oh, that made me think of the wonderful power and blessings that follow our belief in the Lord Jesus Christ.

As I watched those two wonderful people I could see two people working, worshiping, and playing together. Now in this time of need I believe their faith will see them through. They are not a king and queen off to a great journey, but they had more tonight than most kings and queens. They had the love of friends and family to share their heartaches, but most of all to show them they were loved. They, like me, know that today is the most important day. Tomorrow may never come. If we live today as God intended, all the tomorrows will take care of themselves. God gives to us all we need. Our prayers go with them.

When we pack into life's luggage our love and faith in God, our prayers, our friends' love and our families' best we carry with us the greatest clothing we could wear. Even as they travel into the unknown God will go with them all the way. Faith will and can overcome fear of the unknown. When we walk out of the darkness of doubt, we walk into the sunshine of God's love. It's the courage we bring to life that counts and how we use it. May I as a friend wish for our friend—God's will in His life. With a prayer in my heart, I pray you will return home with a song in your heart as only God can put there.

In the words of Annie Johnson Flint:

God hath not promised skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways all our lives through,
God hath not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.
But God hath promised strength for the day,
Rest for the labor light for the way,
Grace for the trials, help from above
Unfailing sympathy, undying love.

We love you, Marvin.

Cragmont Bulletin

"The Mountaintop Experience"

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, N. C.

CRAGMONT TREASURER'S REPORT
September, 1978

Balance Brought Forward September 1, 1978, $ 1,332.10

Receipts

Albemarle Conference			
Free Union			
Trinity	$ 21.00		
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Furbee	50.00		
Mrs. Lyda Cooper	20.00	$ 91.00	
Cape Fear Conference			
Lee's Chapel Fellowship Class	65.00		
Hopewell	200.00		
Wooten's Chapel Auxiliary	25.00	290.00	
Central Conference			
Bethany	31.02		
Daniels Chapel	250.00		
Edgewood	30.00		
Friendship	175.00		
Gum Swamp			
Mrs. Floyd P. Harris	100.00		
Howell Swamp	25.00		
Hugo	50.00		
King's Cross Roads			
Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Wooten	30.00		
Reedy Branch	50.00		
Woman's Auxiliary	25.00		
Sunday School	21.00		
Winterville			
Men's Sunday school class	25.00	812.02	
Eastern Conference			
Bridgeton	19.00		
Crab Point	15.00		
Davis	100.00		
Grants Chapel	50.00		
Mount Zion, Pamlico County	25.00		
Saint Mary's	137.50		
Wardens Grove	210.67		
Whaley's Chapel	50.00	$ 607.17	
French Broad Conference			
Mrs. Anna Moretz	50.00	50.00	
Western Conference			
Free Union, Nash County			
Mr. and Mrs. Lester Duncan	40.00		
Marsh Swamp			
Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Boyette Sr.	25.00		
Milbournie	23.00		
Mount Zion AFCs, Nash	25.00		
Piney Grove YFA	25.00		
Saint Mary's	125.00		
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Watson (in memory of Mrs. Mittie Edwards)	15.00		
Selma	25.00		
Sherron Acres	100.00		
Woman's Auxiliary	100.00		
Spring Hill	200.00		
Union Grove Auxiliary	25.00		
Unity, Durham	25.00	753.00	
Others:			
Cancellation of check to Mrs. D. W. Hancock	10.00		
N. C. State Auxiliary Convention (for Cragmont Woman's Conference)	4,226.61		
Christmas Cards (5 boxes)	7.50	4,234.11	
Total Receipts			6,847.30
Withdrawal from Savings			36,794.00
Total for Which to Account			$44,973.40

Disbursements

Operational Expenses	$ 120.47	
Burress Insurance Agency	343.55	
Douglas Skinner, Advance Payment to operate Cragmont	1,000.00	
John E. Reid, Overseeing Building Project	$ 1,200.00	
Transfer to Main Building Fund	5,319.27	
Cliff Myer, Partial Payment on Main Building Project	36,794.00	
Total disbursements		44,777.29
Balance on Hand, October 1, 1978		$ 196.11

EARMARKED FUNDS

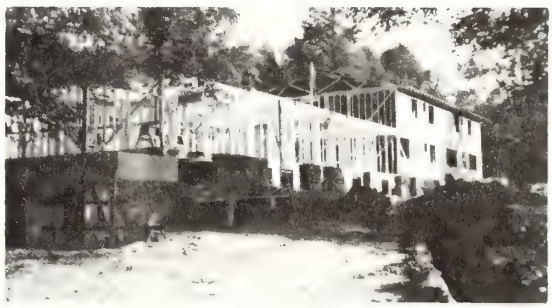
General Fund	$ 196.11
General Savings	5,504.69
Main Building Fund	39,129.57
Total in Bank	$44,830.37

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer
Route 1
Sims, North Carolina 27880

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES AT CRAGMONT



These pictures show the progress being made on the building at Cragmont.



children at the immediate time, but it is very much in the center of the future planning and development of the Children's Home.



Missions

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION GROWING



The Rev. Jackie Godwin and the Rev. Billy Hardee along with many other faithful brethren are doing a good job in the Pee Dee Association.

They had to bring out more chairs when we arrived at the association meeting at Little Bethel church in South Carolina, October 14. The moderator, the Rev. Jackie Godwin, stated that things are looking good for the association. Three new churches have been taken in recently and the interest is at an all time high with sixteen churches reporting.

It might interest some of our people to know that the Beaverdam church, in the Pee Dee Association, pastored by Mr. Godwin, probably has the largest congregation of any of our churches, sometimes exceeding the five hundred mark. The Rev. Holland Norris brought an inspiring message on the "Results of Prayer." The Rev. Stewart Humphrey represented the Children's Home.

Woman's Auxiliary

THE ALICE E. LUPTON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This fund was begun on September 20, 1962, by the Eastern Woman's Auxiliary Convention as a living tribute to the late Mrs. Alice E. Lupton, a pioneer in Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary work. Its purpose is to provide scholarships for ministerial students and missionary candidates enrolled at Mount Olive College.

Gifts may be made by local auxiliaries, the Eastern District Convention, the State Auxiliary Convention or individuals. Contributions are awarded annually in the amounts received.

Through June 30, 1978, a total of $4,882.56 has been received and awarded to qualified students. Gifts to the Lupton Scholarship Fund during the 1977-78 College year were as follows:

August 3, 1977	$ 92.00
November 3, 1977	93.00
February 2, 1978	16.50
May 3, 1978	56.50
Total	$258.00

(The above gifts were sent through the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention.)

Children's Home

CONVENTION OFFERING

The 1978 State Convention offering for the Children's Home amounted to $10,874.06. The convention offering plays a large role in our financial progress here at the Home. The generous gifts of our people at this time of the year enable us to meet our obligations that arise during the opening of school. New clothes, book fees and numerous other expenses make this season one of our most expensive ones. Again we wish to thank you and please continue to pray for us and continue to remember us in your giving.

APARTMENT READY

Our Director of Family Services, James Cahoon and his new wife, Cathy Brickhouse Cahoon, moved into their newly redecorated apartment upon their return from their honeymoon in September. The apartment is located in the Albemarle Cottage and for many years was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell. The walls were painted, a kitchen added and the floors carpeted. The unit has its own heating and cooling unit.

Albemarle Cottage does not house

NEWS & NOTES

Holly Springs Church Has Revival

Revival services will be held October 29 through November 3 at the Holly Springs Original Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly. Services will begin each evening with prayer meeting at 7:15. Guest speaker for the 7:30 services with be the Rev. Charles L. Renfrow, pastor of the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly. There will be special singing throughout the week. The pastor, the Rev. W. Royster Martin, and the church extend a special invitation to everyone to attend.

Carteret County SS Convention and Union, Davis Church

Carteret County Sunday School Convention will meet at the Davis Free Will Baptist Church, Davis, on October 28, Saturday. The scheduled program is as follows:

Sunday School Convention

5:00—Devotions, Host Church
5:10—President's Remarks and Appointment of Committees
5:15—Roll Call of Churches and Attendance Check, Offering
5:25—Reading of the Minutes
—Treasurer's Report
5:30—Business Session
5:40—Tract Ministry Presentation, the Rev. Gurney Chase
5:50—Report of Committees and Awarding of Banner
5:55—Break

Union Meeting

6:00—Hymn, Host Church
—Prayer
—Meeting Called to Order
—Moderator's Remarks
—Recognition of Delegates
—Appointment of Committees
—Receive Offering
—Roll Call of Churches and Church Letters
—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Reading of Minutes
6:20—Business Session
—Special Denominational Reports, via Literature
6:35—Special Announcements
—Reports of Committees
6:40—Congregational Hymn and Special Singing
—Message, the Rev. Harry Jones
—Alternate, the Rev. Sam Weeks
7:15—Adjournment

Revival in Progress Powhatan Church

The Rev. Kemery Ard and the members cordially invite everyone to attend the revival at Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton, on October 23 through 28 at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Billy Nowell will be the guest speaker.

First Union, Western Conference Union Grove Church

The First Union of the Western Conference will meet Saturday, October 28, with the Union Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Wayne County. The host pastor, the Rev. Bobby Jones, and the union extend a cordial invitation to everyone to attend. Mr. Jones will also preach the union message.

Revival at Sandy Plain Church

Revival will be held at Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, near Beulaville, November 8-12 beginning at 7 each night. The Rev. Harold Mac Wallace will be the guest evangelist. Special music will be provided each night. Everyone is invited.

Free Union Church, Pinetown Revival Services and Homecoming

Revival services will begin at the Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, on Monday, October 30 and will continue through November 3, with the Rev. Dallas Pinkham of Hopewell church at Smithfield bringing the evening messages. Services will begin each evening at 7:30. The pastor, the Rev. Francis Garner, and the church members request everyone's presence and prayers.

On Sunday, November 5, homecoming will be observed with worship services beginning at 11 a. m. Dinner will be served in the fellowship hall. Special singing will follow afterwards. All members, former members and visitors are invited to attend this joyous occasion.

News From Free Union Church

Sunday morning, October 29 at 10, Dr. W. Burkette Raper will teach the teens and adult Sunday school classes at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, near Walstonburg. During the morning worship services he will bring news from Mount Olive College and deliver the morning message. All members and friends are invited to attend and bring special gifts for the College.

The Rev. Frank Flowers of Goldsboro will conduct revival services at Free Union, October 29—November 3 at 7:30 each evening. In addition to the gospel messages, there will be a special program of sacred music each evening.

Following the revival, the one hundred and thirty-fifth anniversary of the church will be observed during homecoming services Sunday, November 5. Lunch will be served in the fellowship building during the noon hour. The Rev. C. L. Patrick is pastor of the church.

Fifth Eastern District SS Convention Core Creek Church

The Fifth Eastern District Sunday School Convention will be held at the Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, on October 29. The Rev. Melvin Everington is the pastor. Harvey Whitford is the president of the convention. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Welcome, Woodrow McCoy, Host Superintendent
—Hymn, Congregation
—Response, Charles Mason, Oriental church
—Recognize Delgates, Officers, Pastors
—Offering
—Choir Selection, Host Church
—Sunday school, Host
—Business
—Program, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Casteen and Children of Deans

Cottage , for the Children's Home, Middlesex
12:00—Adjournment

Free Spirit Mission
Have Grand Opening and Homecoming

Free Spirit Free Will Baptist Mission of Wilson will have its grand opening and homecoming on October 29. Services will be held one hour late (Sunday school at 11 a. m. and church at 12 noon) to accommodate those who would like to attend. The Rev. Dale Albertson will bring the morning message. Dinner will be served on the church grounds at 1:30 p. m. followed by a song service. The pastor says, "Come and let us personally thank you for what Christ has accomplished through you."

Dilda's Grove Church
Announces Fall Revival



Fred Rivenbark

Dilda's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Fountain, announces its fall revival beginning November 6 through 11. Services will begin at 7:30 each evening. The guest evangelist will be the Rev. Fred Rivenbark of Durham. The pastor, the Rev. Luther Bissette, and the church congregation extend a special invitation to everyone.

Revival in Progress Core Point Church

Revival is in progress at the Core Point Free Will Baptist Church, Core Point, through Saturday night, October 28. The evangelist is the Rev. Noah Brown. The pastor, the Rev. Ray Harrison, cordially invites everyone to come to the remainder of these services. On Sunday, October 29, the Mount Olive Singers will be with the Core Point church.

Central Conference Hull Road Church

The 230th Annual Session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists will convene at the Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Snow Hill, Greene County, on November 8, 1978. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

9:30—Registration of Ministers and Delegates
10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood
10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Leon Grubbs
10:20—Moderator's Message
—Recognition of Visitors
—Appointment of Committees
—Business
10:30—Report of the State Convention
10:35—Report of Free Will Baptist Press Foundation
10:40—Report of Superannuation
10:45—Report of Mount Olive College
10:50—Report of Cragmont Assembly
10:55—Report of Children's Home
11:00—Report of Foreign Missions
11:05—Report of Church Finance
11:10—Report of Home Missions-Church Extensions
11:15—Report of Board of Ordination
11:25—Report of Obituary Committee
11:30—Introductory Sermon, the Rev. Leon Grubbs
12:00—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00—Scripture and Prayer, Mr. Joe Hudson
1:05—Business Period
—Credentials Committee
—Executive Board
—Central Conference Missions
—Trustees
—Historian
—Temperance Committee
—Resolutions Committee
—Treasurer's Report
—Nomination Committee
—Final Business
—Adjournment

Aspen Grove Church To Have Revival

Revival will be held at Aspen Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Fountain, November 6 through November 11. The time of the services is 7:30 each evening. The Rev. C. H. Overman is the guest evangelist. The Rev. Hubert Burress is the pastor. Everyone is invited.

Second Union SS Convention
And Union Meeting

The Second Union Sunday School Convention of the Central Conference will convene Sunday afternoon, October 29 at 3, in the Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville, North Carolina.

Bruce Gray is president of the convention.

Following the Sunday school convention, the Second Union Meeting of the Central Conferenmce will hold its quarterly session.

Randolph Harris is moderator.

Albemarle Union Meeting, SS Convention, and League Convention

St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Elizabeth City, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting and Sunday School Convention. The Albemarle Convention will meet at the Mount Zion church, Roper. These events will take place on October 28, 1978. The scheduled programs are as follows:

UNION MEETING

OPENING SESSION
10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Robert May
10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Melvin Moore
—Response, the Rev. Stanley Buck
10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charlie Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time
BUSINESS SESSION
10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Press, Via Literature

Turn the Page

—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved
MORNING WORSHIP
11:10—Hymn
11:20—Special Music, Host Church
11:25—Message, the Rev. Melvin Moore
12:00—Benediction
—Adjournment and Lunch

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

OPENING SESSION
1:00—Devotions, the Rev. W. L. Brickhouse
1:10—Welcome-Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. Thomas Mooney
—Response, Mr. David Furlough
1:15—President's Message, the Rev. Billy Reynolds
1:25—Enrollment of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches and Delegates
—Bringing Reports and Receiving Blanks
—Announcements
—Offering for Children's Home
—Offertory Prayer
1:40—Suggestions and Information for the Betterment of Sunday Schools
BUSINESS SESSION
2:00—Minutes of Last Convention Read for Information
—Treasurer's Report
—New Business
—Minutes Read and Approved
AFTERNOON WORSHIP
2:15—Special Music, Host Church
2:25—Benediction and Adjournment

LEAGUE CONVENTION

7:30—Devotions, Mr. Ray Collier
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music, Host Church
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business Period
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banner and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Adjournment
—Pianist, Mr. Craig Oliver

Stancil's Chapel Church To Have Revival

A revival will begin at Stancil's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly, October 30 and will continue through November 4. The Rev. Clyde Cox, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will be the guest evangelist. The time of the services is 7:30 each evening. Special music will be provided. The pastor, the Rev. J. B. Godwin, and the church members invite everyone to attend.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The new address for the Rev. C. F. Bowen is Route 2, Box 393, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530. After November 26 Mr. Bowen will be available to serve as a supply or interim pastor for churches desiring his service. Mr. Bowen entered retirement following his resignation from Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church near Goldsboro. His phone number is 734-9310.

Churches and Ministers Available

Evangelist Arnold Woodlief is available for pastoral and evangelistic work. He may adress all correspondences to him at 410 West Milton Avenue, Marianna, Florida, 32446. His telephone number is 1-904-482-4659.

ATTACKS ON EVANGELICALS WILL INCREASE, SAYS GRAHAM

KANSAS CITY, MO. (EP)—Evangelist Billy Graham believes attacks on Christian groups will increase. "Christian evangelical groups are coming under more scrutiny and attack," he said in an interview here. Mr. Graham conducted a nine-day crusade in Kansas City, which attracted a total of about 143,000 persons, of which about 3,000 made commitments.

"People like myself who have been in the public eye a long time are special targets," he said, adding that the attacks have increased in the last three or four years as many religious groups became more visible on television.

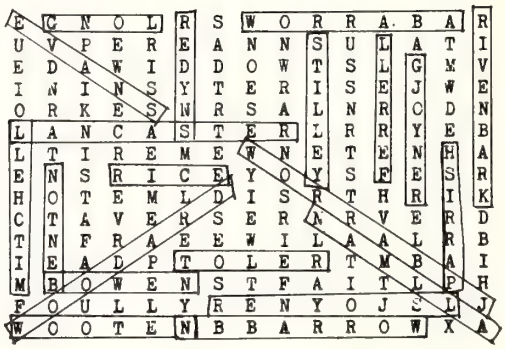
"I would think there would be more personal attacks," Mr. Graham said. "More reporters are trying to make a name for themselves. But part of this is the offense of the cross. Everyone who has preached the Gospel has come under persecution."

In a digression from his sermon topic, one night at the crusade, the evangelist said he had started writing a book on persecution and suffering. "We've (Christians) had our time of popularity," he told the audience. "Now, we will find more and more Christian leaders targeted."

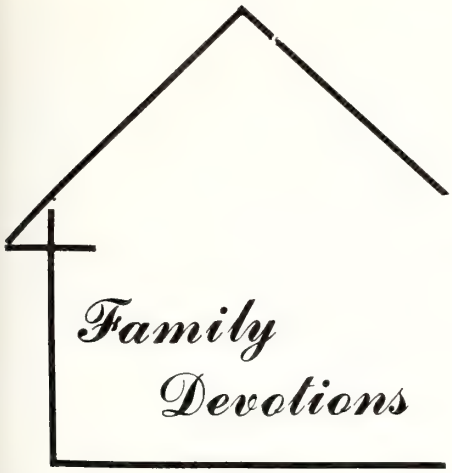
He noted that the Bible is filled with passages on persecution and suffering. He said Jesus tells his followers to deny themselves, take up their crosses, and follow Him. "Suffering will cut down on your numbers," Mr. Graham said. "When Jesus started talking that way people left Him, and people will leave you."

—From **The Evangelistical Beacon**

TODAY'S PUZZLE
by Nancy Matthews



Answer: Superannuated Widows, Ministers, Workers, and Retirement System List Have Served Free Will Baptist(s) Faithfully.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

Scripture Reading—Proverbs 15:23

JOHN'S BIBLE

When he had become one of the country's greatest merchants, John Wanamaker once said, "In my lifetime, I have made many purchases. I have bought things which have cost me thousands of dollars. But the greatest purchase I ever made was when I was a boy twelve years old. Then I bought a Bible for two dollars and fifty cents. That was my greatest purchase, for that Bible made me what I am today."

John Wanamaker became a great man because he, as a poor boy, loved God and His Word. He loved the Bible, read it, and followed its teachings.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The greatest things of value are not brought with money, but with the love and companionship of God.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 8:3

THE POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD

When Jacob de Shazer went as one of Jimmy Doolittle's raiders on Japan on April 18, 1942, he was an atheist. He was captured and imprisoned by the Japanese. He saw two of his companions shot by a firing squad. He saw another die of slow starvation.

During the long months he pondered the question of why the Japanese hated him and why he hated them. He began to recall some of the things he had heard about Christianity.

Boldly, he asked his jailers if they could get him a Bible. At first they laughed boisterously, as at a good joke, grew ugly, and warned him to stop making a nuisance of himself. But he kept on asking.

A year and a half later—May 1944—a guard brought him a Bible, flung it at him, and said, "Three weeks you have. Three weeks, then I take away."

True to his word, in three weeks the guard took the Bible away and de Shazer never saw it again.

In 1948, de Shazer, his wife, and infant son were on their way back to Japan as missionaries, all because he asked for a Bible and a Japanese guard gave him one for three weeks.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We can be saved by reading the Bible, if we truly want to be and have a love of God. The Bible can change lives through God.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31

Scripture Reading—Matthew 8:8

"DON'T LET ME GO BACK EMPTY-HANDED!"

Said Robert Moffat, missionary to Africa, "A woman came to me after having walked fifteen miles, and said that she wished for a New Testament. I said to her:

" 'My good woman, there is not a copy to be had.'

" 'What! Must I return empty-handed?'

" 'I fear you must.'

" 'Oh,' she said, 'I borrowed a copy once, but the owner came and took it away, and now I sit with my family, sorrowful, because we have no Book to talk to us. Now we are far from anyone else. We are living at a cattle outpost, and no one to teach us but the Book. Oh, go and try to find a Book! Oh, my elder brother, do go and try to find a Book for me! Surely there is one to be found. Do not let me go back empty.'

"I felt deeply for her, for she spoke so earnestly, and I said: 'Wait a little and I will see what I can do.'

"I searched here and there and at last found a copy and brought it to the good woman. Oh, if you could have seen how her eyes brightened, how she clasped my hands and kissed them over and over again. Anyway she went with the Book, rejoicing, with a heart overflowing with gratitude."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many people in the world do not have Bibles. Have you helped them by your contributions to foreign missions so that they may receive the Word of God?

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Luke 4:36

TWO HUNDRED LIVES

A few years before the war, a humble villager in eastern Poland received a Bible from a colporteur who visited his small hamlet. He read it, was converted, and passed the book on to others. Through that one Bible two hundred more became believers. When the colporteur, Michael Billester, visited the town in the summer of 1940, the group gathered to worship and listen to his preaching. Billester suggested that instead of giving the customary testimonies they all recite verses of Scripture.

Thereupon a man arose and asked, "Perhaps we have misunderstood. Did you mean verses or chapters?"

"Do you mean to say there are people here who can recite chapters of the Bible?" asked Mr. Billester in astonishment.

That was precisely the case. Those villagers had memorized, not only chapters, but whole books of the Bible. Thirteen knew Matthew and Luke and half of Genesis. One had committed all the Psalms to memory. Together, the two hundred knew virtually the entire Bible. Passed around from family to family and brought to the gathering on Sundays, the old Book had become so worn with use that its pages were hardly legible.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Even one Bible verse can change many people's lives. The Word of God is strong and powerful.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 29:21

GOING BY THE BOOK

Two men, the one a foreman, the other, one of the carpenters under him, were standing on the deck of a steamship then on the stocks, in one of the shipbuilding yards on the Clyde. "Well, S—," said the foreman, "I have been anxious to have a conversation with you. I'm told you are one of those people who say they know for certain that they are saved. Is that true?" "Yes," said S—, "quite true; thank God, I know I'm saved; in fact,

(Continued on Page 13)

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For November 5

INTEGRITY OF RELATIONSHIPS

Lesson Text: Matthew 5:11, 12; James 3:6-14; Exodus 20:16
Memory Verse: James 5:12

I. INTRODUCTION

"I said the wrong thing." How often have you made that confession ruefully, either silently in your mind or aloud to someone else? Sometimes what we say doesn't sound like we thought it would. We know it is wrong as soon as it is out. Sometimes we don't know immediately, but the next day we realize we said the wrong thing. Sometimes it takes the reaction of others to let us know we spoke as we should not. But spoken words can hardly be called back.

"I talk too much." Sometimes this is just another way of confessing that we said the wrong thing. But sometimes we realize that we really have been talking too much when we should have been listening more. We must give others a chance to express themselves. If we talk too much, we fail to understand how others feel and what they think, and therefore we really do not know what to say to them.

"I should have said something." This is the other side of the picture. Sometimes we realize too late that we have not talked enough. We should have spoken up for a friend who was slandered, or for our country, our church, or the truth. But we didn't want to start an argument, or we didn't want to antagonize anyone, or we didn't know just what to say. So the opportunity was gone, and afterward we felt ashamed.

Old-timers used to say, "Hindsight is better than foresight." Isn't it amazing how plainly we can see our blunders when it is too late? Maybe a little study of talk can sharpen our foresight. Maybe we can learn to say the right thing more often, to stop talking at the right time more easily, to speak up at the golden moment more regularly.

Talk about talk is drawn from three widely separated parts of Scripture for this study.

Matthew 5:11, 12. Jesus had been teaching for more than a year. Many disciples thronged about Him, eager to learn. From them He chose His twelve apostles. Perhaps at that point He gave the famous Sermon on the Mount. It begins with some hints on happiness, and the last of them is the first part of our study.

It was years later—perhaps fifteen years, perhaps thirty—when Jesus' half brother James wrote a short book of practical advice for Christians. Some of his talk about talk is the central part of our study.

For the last word of our study we go back nearly fifteen hundred years before Christ. This final passage reminds us that problems of talk are old enough and important enough to have a place in the Ten Commandments.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Whenever one thinks of the Ninth Commandment, which says, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour," he thinks of a courtroom with a judge and a jury. Of course this commandment does refer to bearing witness in court if this becomes necessary, but it means much more than this. The primary meaning seems to be that in our everyday language when we are called upon to speak of our friends and associates we are to be truthful and sincere. The main avenue of communication between people is language. When what we say is false and insincere, then communication breaks down and misunderstanding results. Remember the Tower of Babel in the Old Testament and what happened when God confounded the languages.

B. It has been estimated that an average person usually speaks about 30,000 words per day. This ability to speak is a great blessing, one of those that we take for granted and usually do not think about until it is called to our attention. If you have ever been where those all around you were speaking in a language that you could not understand, and you knew that if you spoke in your language they could not understand you, you can appreciate what a great blessing it is to be able to communicate with others.

C. Our society is built on mutual trust. We must trust that the people who built a bridge did a good job. We must trust the labels on a package that comes from the store. We must trust the word of our associates if our interpersonal relationships are to be what they ought to be. In order for us to be able to trust the word of others, there must be integrity of speech. It will be a sad day when so many misrepresentations and falsehoods are told that we are afraid to trust the word of another. The ability to communicate with speech is basic in our society.

D. In our lesson today we study three passages of Scripture: two from the New Testament and one from the Old. In the passages from the New Testament, we will first see how Jesus instructed the disciples to react to untruths told about them with a deliberate intent to hurt. Then we will see from the Epistle of James just how useful and dangerous the tongue can be. Finally we will take a brief look at the Ninth Commandment in the Old Testament.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. One of the greatest compliments anyone can pay a man is to say of him, "His word is his bond." He doesn't have to prove what he says; his word is accepted; people can depend upon him because of his integrity. This makes a good relationship with all who deal with him.

B. Perhaps a better title for this lesson would be "Integrity in Our Speech," for our text has much to say about the way we use our speech. Here are some ideas that should grow out of this thought:

C. Returning good works for evil. Can we speak well of those who speak

evil of us, especially when what they say is untrue?

D. Being careful about flattery. Most people like to be flattered, but the flatterer is soon characterized and his words lose their influence.

E. Repeating what we hear. When what we hear is nothing more or less than unnecessary gossip, and we then repeat it, we are as guilty as the gossiper.

F. Speaking before we think. It's easy to do, and most of us are the guilty of it. We should be like the man who said, "What I don't say I won't have to take back later."

G. Saying what we mean, and meaning what we say. It may not be what someone wants to hear, but at least he will know that "our word is our bond."

H. Engaging in good conversation. Turn off the television set and spend an hour in good conversation with a friend or loved one. It may not be easy, but it is rewarding.

I. Can you name others for this list?

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

(Continued from Page 11)

there is nothing I'm more sure of, than that I'm saved." "Well, now," said the foreman, "that is something I cannot see through, how any man can say that he is saved as long as he is in this world. I think it is rather presumptuous for anyone to say so." "Well," said S—, "I'm not at all surprised at you, but there *is a reality in being saved,* in being a child of God, and in knowing it. What is the breadth of this waterway?" The foreman, astonished at the apparent sudden change in the conversation, said "Why, fourteen inches all around, to be sure; what makes you ask that, when you know?" "But are you quite sure that it is to be fourteen inches?" "Certainly." "But what makes you so sure?" "*Why, I'm going by the book,*" and, as he said so, he pulled a book out of his pocket, in which were marked the sizes and position of the various things on the deck. "I'm sure it is fourteen inches, for it is here in the book, and I got the book from headquarters." "Oh! I see," said S—; "now look here; that is exactly how I know I'm saved. *I'm just going by the Book.* It came from headquarters—it is God's Word."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you know you are saved? Are you going by the Book? It takes only faith and belief in the Lord Jesus Christ.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 4:2

THE SHIPWRECKED BIBLE

Alexander Duff, the great missionary, sailed for India on the *Lady Holland.* His clothes, his prized possessions, his library of eight hundred volumes were all on board. And then within a few miles of India, a shipwreck occurred.

The passengers were all saved. But the possession of all the passengers were lost at the bottom of the sea. On the seashore, Alexander Duff looked out to sea, hoping against hope that some part of his possession might be cast up on the shore.

Then they saw something—something small, floating on top of the water. Nearer and nearer it came, while anxious eyes watched it. What would it be? The missionary waded into the water, got hold of the floating object and returned. What was it?

returned. What was it?

The Bible! Of all his books, of all his possessions, that single Book was worth saving! Alexander Duff took the rescued Book to be a token from his Lord—took it to mean that this one Book was worth all his books, and all his possessions.

So, heartened, Alexander Duff began his career as a missionary in India. The very next day, reading from the Bible, he began his first class—a group of five boys meeting under a banyan tree. A week later the class had swelled to three hundred listeners!

And several years later a beautiful church stood on the spot where the banyan tree had been—and one thousand students of the Gospel raised their voices in prayer and hymns to Jesus Christ.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What greater, more powerful book can a missionary have than the Bible? It works wonders with people.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—Leviticus 17:11

"LIFE IN BLOOD"

In 1615, William Harvey discovered the circulation of the blood and that the life principle resided therein. Scientists regarded this as an amazing discovery, revealed over three hundred years ago. Says the Bible, "The life of the flesh is in the blood" (Leviticus 17:11). "This is the most comprehensive and up-to-date physiological generalization that has ever been made. The life and wellbeing of every organ, gland, and tissue depends upon the condition and rate of the blood stream," writes a modern scientist.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God created life and all the things around it. It is up to man to keep himself healthy and fit for God.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations,* Eerdmans Press.

EUROPE IS NOW BEING "MOON-STRUCK"!

In a recent editorial in the **Goldsboro News-Argus** it was reported that the Associated Press has issued a statement that the "Moonies" have now invaded Europe.

"Moonies" are followers of the Rev. Sun Myrung Moon's Unification Church who panhandle, sell peanuts, flowers, and a variety of other items, in shopping centers or anywhere else large number of people gather.

The Goldsboro paper adds, "While they ostensibly are raising funds for worthwhile charitable purposes, Rev. Moon languished in a veritable castle, attended by maids and servants.

"Of greater concern is what apparently happens to some of the young people who become involved in the strange religious sects.

"They seem to fall under some hypnosis. Parents, society itself, lose any hold they might have on them."

The Goldsboro paper has had something to say about the Rev. Moon in past issues and has met with some criticism. So has **The Free Will Baptist** in editorials written by Mr. Tommy Manning. But somebody must speak out against this sect or cult and in some way warn innocent people against its evils.

Don't be taken in by the fact the "Moonies" call themselves a "church." As the Goldsboro paper futher reports, "We must be alert to whom and to what we are being asked to give."

—C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor
The Free Will Baptist

ADMISSIONS OFFICERS IN SCHOOLS

Russell W. Duncan, Mount Olive College Director of Admissions, and Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director, will visit in the following high schools as part of the Post Secondary Opportunity program.

Free Will Baptist students attending these schools are invited to come by and bring their fruends.

October 25—	Northern and Southern Schools in Durham
	Person County High School
	Jordan High School
October 26—	Durham Academy
	Chapel Hill High School
October 27—	Orange High School
October 30—	Thomasville High School
	North and South Stokes High Schools
	Salem Academy
	Forsyth County Day School
	Bishop McGuinness High School
	Kernersville Wesleyan
	Westchester Academy in Winston-Salem
October 31—	Forsyth County Schools

PIERSON LECTURE IN ART HISTORY

W. Ronald Dalzell, an Associate of the Royal College of Art in Lindon, England, will be guest speaker at the Annual Pierson Lecture set for Thursday, October 26, at 8 p. m. in the Mount Olive College auditorium. Admission is free.

Dalzell is the author and broadcaster of over 200 scripts on art and architecture for the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) both on radio and television.

He is the author of several books and has a wide range of experience lecturing to adult education groups including groups at Oxford University in England, the National Gallery in Washington, D.C., and the Metropolitan Museum in New York City.

NEW CREATIONS TO SING

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will present a program of song and testimony at the Core Point Free Will Baptist Church homecoming in Blount's Creek on Sunday, October 29, at the morning and afternoon services.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE WEEK

(Note: Student of the Week is a feature made available by the MOUNT OLIVE TRIBUNE and run in cooperation with the Mount Olive College News Bureau. Students are chosen at random.)



Allison Gay

Nineteen-year-old Allison Gay is Mount Olive College Student of the Week.

Allison is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Gay of Walstonburg. They belong to Howell Swamp Free Will Baptist Church.

As a sophomore at Mount Olive, Allison is studying for a degree in elementary education or special education.

This year she is secretary of the International Club, an organization that studies the customs and cultures of other countries.

She also sings soprano for the Mount Olive College Concert Choir for the second year.

As a resident student, Allison said, "One of the most important lessons I've learned is how to get along with other people.

Her nominator describes her as "the best roommate in the world."

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at Free Union Free Will Baptist Church in Greene County on Sunday, October 29, at the 10 a. m. Sunday school hour and the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. C. L. Patrick is pastor.

THE J.C. AND BERTHA DAIL GRIFFIN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This fund was established in 1962 as a tribute to the Rev. J. C. Griffin in appreciation for more than fifty years of faithful ministerial service to Original Free Will Baptists. The initial gifts were made by the Griffin family but churches and friends began making contributions later.

When Mrs. Griffin died in 1976 her name was added to the fund.

As of June 30, 1978, gifts to the Griffin Scholarship Fund have totaled $10,969.90. This money is an endowment (investment) and each year the earnings are used to provide scholarships for students preparing for the ministry, missions or a related Christian vocation.

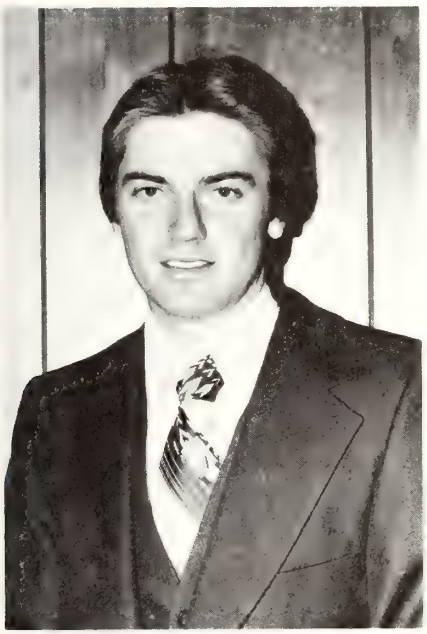
Gifts to the Griffin Fund may be made at any time in any amount by any individual, auxiliary, church or denominational body. As the principal of the fund grows, its annual earnings will

increase and the scholarship awards will be greater.

The J. C. and Bertha Dail Griffin Scholarship Fund is a worthy and lasting memorial to the couple who gave their lives in service to God through Original Free Will Baptists.

W. Burkette Raper

RELIGIOUS LIFE RETREAT



Craig Simmons

The annual Religious Life Retreat for Mount Olive College students is scheduled for the weekend of October 27-29 in Oriental, North Carolina, featuring the Rev. Craig Simmons of Wilson as guest speaker.

The program of spiritual enrichment will begin with a Friday evening worship service at Oriental Free Will Baptist Church under the direction of Mr. Simmons.

On Saturday, students will be divided into groups for discussions. The public is cordially invited to attend a Saturday night singspiration at Oriental church at 7:30 p. m.

The retreat will conclude with the Sunday morning worship service.

Originally from Creswell and Mount Tabor Free Will Baptist Church, 24-year-old Simmons is youth pastor at First Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson under the Rev. Clyde Cox.

As youth pastor, he coordinates the Children's Church Ministry and the whole youth program including youth auxiliaries, two youth choirs, youth Bible study and a movie ministry.

He also served as director of music and evening services for the 1978 General Youth Week Conference in Cragmont.

Simmons is an alumnus of Mount Olive College. He is married to the former Jackie Warren of Williamston.

(Continued on the Back Page)

LAND GIVEN TO MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE



Shown from left, Dr. Raper, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, and Miss Louise Edgerton of Pikeville, College Board Secretary.

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt Sr. of Lucama have presented to Mount Olive College the deed for 33 1/3 acres of pine forest land located in northern Wayne County. The gift is under terms of a trust.

"We originally made provisions in our will for the land to go to the College, but we decided to have the satisfaction of presenting it while we are living," commented Hunt, who is chairman of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees.

Mr. and Mrs. Hunt are members of Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church in Rock Ridge.

Approximately 30 persons have presented gifts under the terms of the Planned Gifts Program at Mount Olive which includes annuities, various kinds of trusts, pooled income funds as well as estate gifts.

Total gifts under this new Mount Olive College program during the last three years total nearly $500,000.

GIFTS TO MOYE LIBRARY

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of September, 1978, totaled $247.50 and were as follows:

In Memory of

Mr. Clarence S. Bunn by Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie G. Howell, Pikeville; Mrs. Clara B. Pollard, Princeton; and Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Mittie Barnes Edwards by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Alma Etheridge by Mrs. Daisy Owens and Mother, Elm City.

Mrs. Chesbro Fields by Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Hare, Pikeville.

Mr. Gene Guy by Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wood and Pam, Four Oaks.

Mr. Fred Harrison by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Business Office Staff, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive; Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount Olive; Mr. Nathan Reynolds, Goldsboro; Mr. and Mrs. John N. Walker, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mrs. Annie Kelly by Mr. and Mrs. Neil Jackson, Mount Olive.

Representative Dorsey Matthews by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mr. E. C. Moore by Mr. Eugene L. Gaskill, Fayetteville.

Mr. Thomas Carlyle Morris by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mr. Kenneth Moulton by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Waller, Mount Olive.

Mr. Gordon K. Outlaw by Mr. Bryce H. Ficken, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Marjorie Allen Parker, by the Rev. and Mrs. John R. Lee, Four Oaks.

Mr. Kenneth Parrish by Mr. and Mrs. Ivery Daughtry, Smithfield.

Mr. Lisker Tart by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mr. Walter B. Warren by Women's Auxiliary, First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston.

Mr. E. V. Wilkins by Mrs. Cathy C. Lewis, Clayton.

In Honor of

Elma Hines Beddard by Ladies Auxiliary, Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Lindsey McCrae Flythe by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Kelly Ann King by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Mount Olive College Faculty and Staff by the Rev. and Mrs. Larry Crumpler, Albertson.

Gift

Miss Elaine Jones, Mount Olive.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. James Edward (Ed) Taylor was called home to be with the Lord, September 19, 1978, after a short illness. He was born April 12, 1920, in Martin County.

His funeral was conducted in Biggs Funeral Chapel, Williamston, North Carolina by the Rev. Curtis Jones and the Rev. David Pope. Burial was in the Martin Memorial Gardens.

He was the son of the late George Luther and Mattie Meeks Taylor. He married Lillian Irene Pollard, who died March 28, 1960. He married Rosa Sills Taylor October 29, 1966. He is survived by his widow and by four sons, Shelton E. Taylor of High Point, North Carolina, Bobby Taylor of West Virginia, Jimmy Taylor of Asheboro, North Carolina, Earl Taylor of Williamston, North Carolina, a daughter, Mrs. Yvonne Coltrain, of Williamston, North Carolina, two sisters, Mrs. Motie Bell Cherry of Micro, North Carolina and Mrs. Mildred Lee Reimer of Opalocka, Florida. one brother, William N. (Dick) Taylor of Williamston, North Carolina and 12 grandchildren.

Ed became a Christian early in life and joined the Cedar Grove Free Will Baptist Church. Later in life he moved his membership to the First Free Will Baptist Church in Williamston, North Carolina, where he attended until his death.

He was a World War II army veteran, where he served two years in the European theater, during his tour of duty he was a prisoner of war in Germany and was listed as missing in action. He was cited with many honors and medals, including the purple heart.

Returning home to Williamston, he went into the service station business in which he was still engaged at the time of his death. He was an outstanding citizen and held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was a good Christian, devoted husband and father, and always met his friends with a smile which was his gracious character. His life touched so many people in all walks of life as was witnessed with the great host of friends paying tribute to him in flowers and attendance of his funeral.

Eddie, it has been only a short while we saw your smiling face,
Memory has its magic way to keep those we love so near,
In remembrance of the happy days gone by.
The advice you gave or a little laughter shared on those special days.
As autumn comes each year dressed in all its beauty.
It will be just a reminder of the one we loved and hold so dear.
The gateway to Heaven has opened, God gave you His call,
He fulfilled every promise with the joys beyond compare,
The eternal lights shine brightly as the host of angels
Sing God's great anthems and praises to announce, it's
Just another member of the family, Eddie has arrived.

With Love, his sister,
Motie Bell Cherry

DS
F857W



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AT CRAGMONT THIS TIME OF YEAR GOD HAS TINTED EVERY LEAF WITH LOVE'S MOST BEAUTIFUL COLORS. WHY DON'T YOU GO AND SEE FOR YOURSELF?

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

Cover Photo by
Walter Reynolds

REVISION COMMITTEE TO BE COMMENDED

Months of hard work, diligent prayer, study of God's Word, mutual agreements (and possibly some mild disagreements), alterations and revisions—all have gone into the efforts of the special committee on the revision of our **Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.** Having served on such a committee in years past, this writer can appreciate the work of this present group.

In all probability there will be still more months of work.

A preliminary draft of the proposed revision is now in the editorial offices of the Free Will Baptist Press where careful scrutiny is being made of it in the attempt to be of aid to the committee.

We make no projections as to when this most important document will be ready for consideration by the State Convention and the conferences.

The editorial department commends the brethren for their arduous undertaking and the progress thus far made therein.

Since it is not too late to make suggestions which the committee would surely welcome, we would urge the brethren to examine earnestly all parts of the "Treatise," but especially two.

1. **Perseverance of the Saints**, Page 30 of the 1955 revision. A distinct and clearly-worded statement on this section will enable our people to understand better that we do not believe in "eternal security." The better our people understand this section, and know what we believe on perseverance, the less likely there will be of further infiltration into our ranks of the eternal security error. The error is with us and it will not go away until we have made it clear that it has no place in our body of doctrine.

2. **The Final Judgment and Final Retribution,** Page 40. This section has always been too vague. It fails to reveal the premillennial view of the Second Coming of Christ which this writer assumes most of us hold. We could understand at one time why this section was left as it is—when we had to fellowship with postmillennialists within our ranks.

If we plan to see each other in the Rapture, as our choirs and quartets sing, why not so state it in the revision? If we believe what Paul says about it, why shun it in our formal statements?

If we believe in a distinct **first** resurrection of the dead in Christ and a distinct **second** resurrection of those who died without Christ, why not say so?

If we believe that Christians will stand at the Judgment Seat of Christ and sinners at the Great White Throne, and bearing in mind that a thousand years of the millennial reign of Christ lies between them, why not say so?

We look hopefully for serious consideration of these and other matters vital to our beliefs and practices.

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NOVEMBER 1, 1978
The Rev. C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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STEADMANS FIND GOD'S ROAD TO SUCCESS



Bruce and Kathy Steadman

WHAT price do you pay for success?

Bruce and Kathy Steadman feel their move to attend Mount Olive College is bringing them closer to the kind of success they are looking for in life.

"I thought I was well on the way to a successful life six years ago," Bruce commented, "but now I know I am."

Since moving to Mount Olive from Rockingham, North Carolina, Bruce has entered a ministerial program at Mount Olive College while remaining an agent for Pilot Life Insurance Company and accepting a pastorate at Rosebud Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson. Kathy is also enrolled in Mount Olive College full time while caring for their two children, Tommy, eight, and Karen, five.

In the Beginning

Bruce and Kathy were both born and raised in Rockingham.

"We married while I was still in the army," Bruce said, "but moved back to the Rockingham area after my discharge in 1971."

Becoming an insurance agent for the Pilot Life Company brought Bruce instant success. He was promoted to staff manager after eighteen months. Last year his office staff produced the second largest total of sales in the entire company.

"I was a success in every man's eyes but my own," Bruce said. "I felt like something was missing."

In February, 1976, Bruce's mother died suddenly of a heart attack. Shortly afterwards, Bruce began complaining of chest pains, Kathy relates.

"They were so real, I began to go to every doctor that would see me but every report came back that nothing was wrong," Bruce said.

No Pain on Sunday

Kathy, who was raised in the church, began suggesting they attend church on Sundays.

"I'd vow to go with her during the week, but every Sunday morning, I would wake up feeling so good, I'd refuse to go," Bruce commented.

After a cycle of about five months of nightly chest pain attacks and feeling fine all day Sunday, Kathy persuaded Bruce to attend the church of his childhood.

"It was quite an experience," Bruce recalls. "I sat down in the Sunday School class and cried all the way through it."

During the church service, Bruce was asked to give his testimony.

"I don't even remember what I said," Bruce states, "but I cried all the way through that too and so did most of the people in the church."

Bruce and Kathy's involvement in the church became a short-lived few weeks, however.

"When they asked me to become involved in church work, I had to run," Bruce said.

During the association in church, Bruce remembered having little or no chest pains at all. However, in three or four weeks after leaving, his condition returned as severe as before. Again, he returned to the doctors' offices for more tests.

"Kathy and I talked it over and decided we must return to church because it offered the only relief I could find for the pain," Bruce stated. "I wouldn't go back to the same church because they wanted me to become involved," he added.

This time, the Steadmans visited East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church where the Rev. Walter Carter is pastor.

"When we walked through the doors, we both knew at the same time, that this was the church for us," Bruce said.

On the first Sunday, the preacher stopped Bruce before he could leave the church and asked if he was a preacher.

"I told him I not only wasn't a preacher, I wasn't even a Christian," Bruce explained.

I thought the Lord told me you were a preacher was Walter Carter's reply.

Running Again

Two Sundays later, Bruce was approached by the president of the Sunday school class and asked to teach class the following Sunday.

"I told him I would," Bruce said.

The next Sunday Bruce drove Kathy and the children to church and let them out for Sunday school and left.

"I just had to run one more time," Bruce stated.

After driving around, Bruce returned and attended the morning worship service.

"That incident bothered me so badly, I spent most of the week praying because I had let all those people down," Bruce said.

The following Sunday, Bruce went to the altar and asked God to take over his life.

"I can even remember my prayer," Bruce stated, "I said, 'God, I know you have something for everyone, and you have something for me. Just let me know what it is and I won't let you down again.'"

Turn the Page

MACEDONIA CHURCH HOSTS EASTERN CONFERENCE



The eighty-third annual meeting of the Eastern Conference of Original Free Will Baptists was held recently at the Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul, North Carolina. The host pastor was the Rev. Walter Sutton.

Reports come to us that the conference was well attended; there were good messages, and business items were disposed of in the spirit of Christian brotherhood. We commend the brethren for a good conference.

The Rev. David W. Hansley is moderator and the Rev. Bill Futch is clerk.



MODERATOR D. W. HANSLEY presents an attractive certificate of merit to the Rev. James A. Evans, beloved pastor of Davis Free Will Baptist Church, Carteret County, North Carolina. This was an honor accorded to him for fifty years of devoted service to his denomination. Mrs. Evans, to whom much of his success is due, stands by his side.



MOMENTS OF FELLOWSHIP are important to ministers and delegates at noontime and between sessions. These are enjoying such fellowship in the beautiful sanctuary of the church.

FEATURE

(Continued from Page 3)

From that point on, the Steadmans appeared at the church every time the doors were open.

"I just love it," Kathy said, "I was raised in the church and enjoy all the activities of serving God."

When asked why he decided to become a minister, Bruce states, "I never really considered doing anything else."

A Need for Education

For the first time after high school, Bruce felt a great need to further his education.

"I believe God called me to preach and for that I don't need an education; but to be a pastor in this day requires an education," Bruce explained.

Upon approaching Walter Carter, Bruce was advised to pray before reaching a decision about where to go.

During that time, another denomination offered their assistance in providing an education and a pastorate while Bruce attended their college.

"I even went so far as to join the church when I realized this was not the place God wanted me to be," Bruce said.

Off to Mount Olive College

Upon returning to East Rockingham, Bruce says, "Walter Carter took one look at me, put me in his car and drove me to Mount Olive College. We sat down with the President, W. Burkette Raper, and came out with my questions answered for my education and even Kathy's too."

The Steadmans moved to Mount Olive in January of 1978.

"Without Mount Olive I would not be able to finance our educations, however, I do hope that we are Free Will Baptists will some day be able to provide the opportunities of a full education to the ministers of our denomination," he said.

The Steadman family now look forward to graduation. Bruce will finish his studies in December and Kathy will finish in May. Both will take part in the Commencement Exercises of the Class of 1979.

"I no longer experience any chest pains and I look forward to the day I can be a full-time pastor and also provide for my family," Bruce said. "To this I give all the thanks to God."

"A Christian Home
for Boys and Girls"

Children's Home

MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

HOUSEPARENT ENRICHMENT GROUP



James Cahoon, Director of Family Services, and Muriel Overman, Family Services worker, meet with the worship leader.

Our houseparents have been participating in a Self-Esteem workshop for the last several weeks. Our children come to us with their spirits broken from abuse and neglect. They have suffered from the trials of a broken home. Often their parents' wrath toward one another was wrongly directed toward the child. The child of this kind of environment suffers from a poor self-image, considers himself worthless, unloved, and thinks of himself as being incapable of loving or being loved. The workshops will enable our staff to help our children build a new self-image. They will find from the concern shown by our staff that they indeed are loved and can love even though their parents may have disappointed them. The workshops are taught by the personnel of the Nash-Edgecombe Mental Health Clinic. We have an ongoing program of staff development with the hope of having as qualified a child care staff as any agency in our state. All our training is designed with one thought in mind, "How we can better relate the love of our Lord Jesus Christ to the child we serve."

THE REVELATORS TO APPEAR

THE REVELATORS from Wadesville, Indiana, will appear in the following churches to give a concert on behalf of the Children's Home. An offering will be received and all proceeds from the concert will be for the work of our Children's Home at Middlesex.

Dilda's Grove	Nov. 1	8 p. m.
St. Mary's (Kenly)	Nov. 4	7 p. m.
Casey's Chapel	Nov. 5	11 a. m.
Kenly church	Nov. 5	7:30 p. m.

Fall Farm Report

Our crops have been harvested for the year. Corn yield was off but the garden and livestock products were very good for the year. Our tobacco was leased off again this year. Mr. Patterson, our farm manager, is planting rye and winter wheat. When the wheat is harvested soy beans will be planted in the summer of 1979.

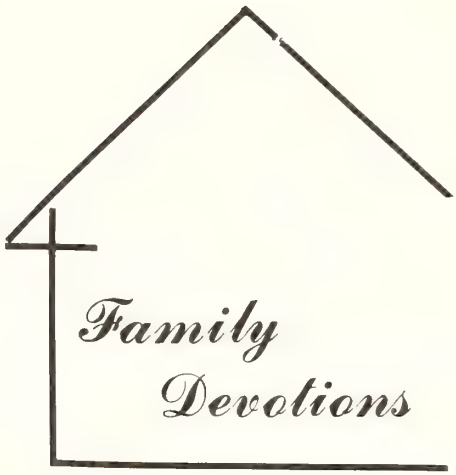
We expect 40 additions to our cow herd this fall. The calves produced by our herd provide beef for the campus as well as for sale.

We would like to encourage our hog farmers to make donations of pigs if they have them so we will have pork for hog killing time this fall. We have pen space available and will pick up the pigs if you wish.

All in all it has been a pretty fair farming year for us. The Lord has provided and we give Him thanks for His bounty.



Our farm manager, Mr. Patterson, is planting rye and winter wheat.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—Psalm 68:11

THE WORD LIVES

Ingersoll held up a copy of the Bible and said, "In fifteen years I'll have this book in the morgue." Fifteen years rolled by, Ingersoll was in the morgue, and the Bible lives on. Voltaire said that in one hundred years the Bible would be an outmoded and forgotten book, to be found only in museums. When the one hundred years were up, Voltaire's house was owned and used by the Geneva Bible Society. And recently ninety-two volumes of Voltaire's works—a part of the Earl of Derby's library—were sold for two dollars!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Think of how many people have lost their lives since the Bible has been written, but the Bible lives on. Its words are strong and can withstand many storms of life.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Scripture Reading—Psalm 23

MEDITATING UPON THE WORD

Andrew Bonar tells of a simple Christian in a farm house who had "meditated the Bible through three times." This is precisely what the psalmist had done; he "had shaken every tree in God's garden and gathered fruit therefrom." The idea of meditation is to "get into the middle of a thing." *Meditation is to the mind what digestion is to the body. Unless the food be digested, the body receives no benefit from what we read or hear; there must be that mental digestion known as meditation.* If we would "buy the truth," we must pay the price which Paul intimated when he wrote to Timothy: "Meditate upon these things, give thyself wholly to them." David meditated in God's Word because he loved it, and he loved it because he meditated in it.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many verses in the Bible do you know? Do you know the Twenty-third Psalm? If you don't, how about learning it today!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Scripture Reading—Genesis 2:7

MAN AND SOIL OF EARTH

Modern Science says, "The identical sixteen elements found in the human body are also found in ordinary soil of the earth." The Bible says, with scientific accuracy, "Man is formed of the dust of the ground!" (Genesis 2:7). "Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return" (Genesis 3:19). Said a scientific lecturer, "If it were possible for the human body to instantly lose all of its electrical values that body would instantly fly into dust!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

God created Adam out of the dust of the ground, and when we die we are buried in that ground, but as Christians we have an eternal home in Heaven.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 30:14

THE HISTORY OF JUDSON'S BIBLE

Twenty years after Adoniram Judson reached Burma the New Testament was translated into the Burmese tongue. In 1824, when war was waged between England and Burma, Mr. Judson was thrown into prison, and Mrs. Judson buried the precious manuscript, just ready for the printer, in the earth beneath their house. But as mold was gathering upon it, on account of the dampness caused by heavy rains, with a woman's ready wit, she sewed the treasure inside a roll of cotton, put on a cover and took it to the jail to be used by Mr. Judson as a pillow.

In nine months he was transferred to the inner prison, where five pairs of fetters were upon his ankles, and it was announced that he, with a hundred others, fastened to a bamboo pole, were to be killed before morning. During this terrible night, much prayer ascended for the precious pillow. It had fallen to the share of the keeper of the prison, but Mrs. Judson, producing a better one, induced him to exchange.

Mr. Judson was not killed, but was hurried away to another place, and again the pillow was his companion. But one of the jailers untied the mat that served as its cover and threw the roll of cotton into the yard as worthless. Here a native Christian, ignorant of its value, found and preserved it as a relic of his beloved master, and with him months afterward its contents were discovered intact. After the close of the war this New Testament was printed, and in 1834 the whole Bible was translated into the Burmese language—a language peculiarly difficult on account of its construction and curious combinations.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you ever thought of how many languages the Bible must be translated into to bring the Word of God to the whole world?

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Scripture Reading—Psalm 130:5

NO MASTERPIECE

An elderly gentleman, who was very nearsighted, prided himself on his ability as an art critic. While accompanying some friends through a large gallery, he sought to display his real or fancied knowledge of pictures to these friends. He had left his glasses at home and was not able to see things very clearly. Standing before a large frame, he began to point out the inartistic features of the picture there revealed. "The frame, "he said, "is altogether out of keeping with the subject and as for the subject itself (it was that of a man), it is altogether too homely, in fact, too ugly, ever to make a good picture. It is a great mistake for any artist to choose so homely a subject for a picture if he expects it to be a masterpiece." The old gentleman was going on like this when his wife managed to get near enough to interrupt. She exclaimed, "My dear, you are looking into a mirror." He was quite taken back to realize that he

had been criticizeng his own face. Now the word of God is such a mirror. It does not hide our deformities.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of us have looked at ourselves in a mirror? Do we see a person whose life is filled with sin or do we see a person whose life has been cleansed by the blood of the Lamb?

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Scripture Reading—2 Timothy 4:2

SAID HENRY FORD:

"All the sense of integrity, honor, and service I have in my heart I got from hearing the Bible read by a school teacher in the three years I was privileged to go to a little, old-fashioned grammar school. The teacher read the Bible every morning to start the day right. I got a great deal out of that influence. I was brought up in the church. I belong to the church. I attended church. I never go to hear a sermon, whether it is by a preacher in a small church or a large one, that I do not get help."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Where do you as a child remember having the Bible first read to you? Was it at home, school, or church?

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—John 4:24

PARABLE OF THE VACATIONISTS

Now it came to pass, as summer drew nigh, that Mr. Church Member lifted his eyes unto the hills and said: "Lo, the hot days come and even now are at hand. Come, let us go into the heights, where cool breezes refresh and glorious scenes await."

"Thou speakest wisely," quoth Mrs. Church member. "Yet three or four things must we do before we go."

"Three things I can think of, but not four," responded Mr. Church Member. "We must arrange for the flowers to be watered, the chickens fed, and the mail to be forwarded, but the fourth eludes my mind."

"The fourth is like unto the first three, yet more important than all. Thou shalt dig down into thy purse and pay thy church pledge, that the good name of the church be preserved, and that it may be well with thee,

(Continued on Page 9)

The Bakers Are in the Philippines

Commissioned at the College

The beautiful chapel on the campus of Mount Olive College was the scene of the impressive commissioning service for the Rev. and Mrs. Fred Baker, our missionaries to the Philippines, Saturday, October 21, at 6 p. m.

Fred and Linda, with their children, Kim and Stevie, are now in the Philippines and have been met by the Rev. and Mrs. Wayne King, our missionaries already stationed there. The Bakers expect to remain there for four years before their first furlough.

Foreign missions director, the Rev. Joseph Ingram, was the speaker for the occasion, leaving a challenge not only with the Bakers but also with the large crowd that practically filled the chapel sanctuary.

In a highly emotional climax to the service, all the people came to the altar and bade the Bakers goodbye, as the congregation sang "Wherever He Leads I'll Go."

The Free Will Baptist Fellowship of the college served refreshments in the Henderson Building following the service.

Keep the Bakers in your daily prayers. Keep telling yourself that they (as well as the Kings) are halfway around the world, and that's a long way from home, family, and friends. Remember still another thing: they went away knowing that you are praying for them. The Holy Spirit has a way of making this revelation known to His servants. Keep the prayer lines open!



RELATIVES AND FRIENDS are shown here with the Bakers at the Raleigh-Durham airport. Fred and Linda are at the left with their children, Kim and Stevie in the forefront.



MISS JUDY DAIL of Bethany Church, Winterville, added inspiration to the commissioning service by singing, "A Brand New Touch" and "My House Is Full." Her accompanist was Mrs. Rex Wainwright, also of Bethany church.

Missions

WHY NOT START A NEW CHURCH?

by
Taylor Hill

Are you in a position to exercise your full potential? We probably have a large number of ministers and laymen who have what it takes to be good church builders.

Establishing new churches is very exciting and very rewarding. The Home Mission field is wide open for Christian men and women with new ideas and effective methods in evangelism. Don't be afraid!

For Home Missions and Church Extension work, contact the Rev. Taylor Hill, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305; phone 485-3980. For Foreign Missions, contact the Rev. Joseph Ingram, 3604 Patetown Road, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530; phone 734-5946.

PEGGY AND JOE INGRAM AT HAYMOUNT MISSION



Joe and Peggy Ingram visit Haymount Mission in Fayetteville, North Carolina. The Foreign Mission program was presented and well received.

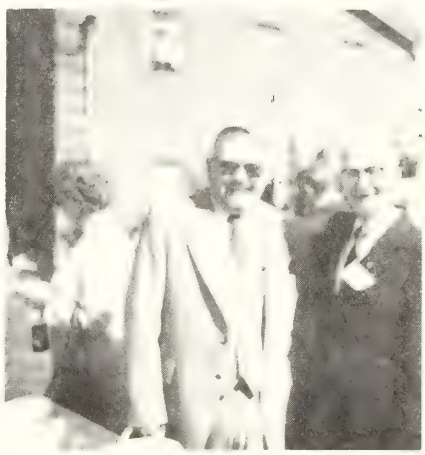
FREEDOM MISSION NEGOTIATING FOR BUILDING



Freedom Mission at Lumberton is presently negotiating for building. They report that they are encouraged and have high hopes for the future.

Pictured front center is the pastor, the Rev. Lewis Spouse with son, Robert, and wife, Lois.

EASTERN CONFERENCE MEETS



Time out for food and laughter; Taylor Hill captured this scene at the Eastern Conference. Pictured are: the Rev. Walter Sutton of the host church, Macedonia, and the conference moderator, the Rev. David Hansley.

ATTENTION WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

The study course on stewardship to be taught by Mrs. Dola Dudley at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville, will be November 16, 1978, at 7:30 p. m. instead of November 9 as previously announced.

NEWS NOTES

Cape Fear Conference, Smyrna Church

The one hundred twenty-fourth session of the Cape Fear Conference will meet at the Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Dunn, on November 2. The scheduled program is as follows:

MORNING SESSION

8:30—Registration
9:00—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, Bobby Murray Jr.
—Welcome, the Rev. W. A. Martin
—Response, the Rev. Dallas Pinkham
9:15—Call to Order
—Registration Rules Explanation by Credentials Committee Chairman, the Rev. Ed Taylor
—Roll Call of Officers
—Roll Call of Churches
—Recognition of Visitors
—Moderator's Remarks, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin
—Appointment of Committees
9:45—Children's Home Report
10:00—Mount Olive College Report
10:15—Denominational Enterprise Reports
11:15—Congregational Singing
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Special Music
—Sermon, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President, Mount Olive College
12:00—Recess for Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15—Congregational Singing
—Scripture and Prayer, the Rev. Arnold Price
1:25—Report of Standing Committees
—Executive Committee
—Ordaining Council
—Sunday School Convention
—Cape Fear Mission Board
—Woman's Auxiliary
—Cape Fear Ministers Conference
—Board of Education
2:15—Reports of Temporary Committees
—Temperance
—Resolution
—Obituary
—Credentials
—Nominating
3:00—Business Session
—Treasurer's Report
—Adjournment

Song Director, Mr. Johnnie Woodall
Pianist, Sandra M. Worley

College Scholarships Presented

On October 15 at the Hugo Free Will Baptist Church, near Grifton, the pastor, the Rev. Tom Miller, presented seven college scholarship awards totaling $1,050 to the following full-time students who are members of the Hugo church. They are Gail Letchworth, Patsy Ham, Penny Waters, Grayling Letchworth, Danny Harris, Sonya McCoy, and Debra Wade.

The college scholarships were presented in equal amounts. The scholarship fund was established by a weekly offering with special gifts also being contributed. The Hugo church believes in and appreciates its young people.

Walter Carter Honored



The Rev. Walter Carter in front of the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church

The Rev. Walter Carter was honored on Sunday, October 8, when he celebrated 43 years as pastor of the East Rockingham Free Will Baptist Church, Rockingham. Members of the congregation were hosts for the special occasion.



Mr. Carter in the pulpit of East Rockingham church.



There was a beautiful 3-tier cake. Mr. Carter is holding it.

Flowers decorated the sanctuary for Sunday's celebration. Mr. Carter's favorite songs were included on the program, along with poems written by Mrs. Jesse Benoist and Mrs. Eli Weltch to honor their pastor. Following the morning worship service a homecoming picnic lunch was enjoyed on the church grounds.

Currently East Rockingham church is in a building program of a new $45,000 fellowship hall to be completed by December of this year.



Mr. Carter is standing in front of the new fellowship hall, soon to be completed.

Mr. Carter was honored on his 43rd year with a new LTD Ford.

A member of the church summed up Sunday, October 8, by saying, "The Rev. Walter Carter is a true saint of God."

Homecoming and Revival at Wintergreen Church

Wintergreen Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Cove City, will observe its annual homecoming on November 5. The Rev. Bobby Brown is pastor. Sunday school will begin at 10 a. m. Morning worship is at 11 with the pastor bringing the morning message. Lunch will be served on the grounds. All former members, pastors, and friends are invited to attend.

Revival will begin on November 6. The Rev. Earl Glenn will be the evangelist. He is from Goldsboro. Services begin each evening at 7:30. Everyone is invited to attend.

FAMILY DEVOTIONS

(Continued from Page 7)

for verily I say unto thee, thou hast more money now than thou wilt have when thou dost return."

And it came to pass that Mr. Church Member paid his pledge for the summer, and the treasurer rejoiced greatly, saying, "Of a truth there are those who care for the Lord's work." And it was so.

PRAYER THOUGHT

It doesn't matter what time of the year that we may take our vacation, as long as we don't vacation from God. He doesn't forget us any time.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

Christine Michele Skinner, infant daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Doug Skinner, was born October 20, 1978, and lived approximately one hour.

Graveside service was held in Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Wilson, North Carolina, October 22 at 2 p. m.

This is the second baby the Skinners have lost within about one year.

Doug and his wife, Virginia, are managers of our Cragmont Assembly.

Our hearts go out to them in genuine compassion and we pray for God's special grace for them in these days of pungent grief.

DILDA TO SPEAK

Ken Dilda, Mount Olive College History Professor, will speak at Mount Olive College Day to be held at King's Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church, in Pitt County, Sunday, November 5, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Frank Brinson is pastor.

FIRST FOUR DINNERS SURPASS LAST YEAR

The first four College benefit dinners held this fall exceeded their goals for 1978.

Wayne County Free Will Baptists raised over $3,700 above last year's total with gifts amounting to $13,400.

The Lenoir County dinner total was $5,317, an increase of about $700 over last year. The Greene County dinner showed an increase of $400 with gifts amounting to $5,538. Nash County churches raised $2,618, exceeding last year's amount by almost $50.

Scholarships of $100 for the church raising the most in gifts were won by First Church, LaGrange, (Lenoir County), Hull Road (Greene County), Stony Creek (Wayne County), and Barnes Hill (Nash County).

College scholarships given to the church giving the most per person were won by First, LaGrange (Lenoir County), Howell Swamp (Greene County), Spring Hill (Wayne County), and Barnes Hill (Nash County).

College scholarships awarded to the churches bringing the most high school students to the dinner were awarded to First, Kinston (Lenoir County), Grimsley church (Greene County), Spring Hill (Wayne County), and a tie between Stony Hill and Free Union churches (Nash County).

DR. PELT AT HOMECOMING

Dr. Michael Pelt, Chairman of the Humanities Division at Mount Olive College, will speak at the homecoming service of First Free Will Baptist Church, LaGrange, Sunday, November 5, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Carlton Lucas is pastor.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE WEEK

(NOTE: Student of the Week is a feature made available by the MOUNT OLIVE TRIBUNE and printed in cooperation with the Mount Olive News Bureau, reprinted in the FREE WILL BAPTIST).



Debbie Sharp

Debbie Sharp, an 18 year old freshman, is Mount Olive College Student of the Week.

From Rock Ridge, Debbie was a member of the last graduating class at Rock Ridge High School before consolidation this fall.

She is a secretarial science major because "I enjoy typing and office work."

Debbie joined Phi Beta Lambda, the college organization for business majors, and is serving as historian.

Another extracurricular activity includes singing in the New Creations, Mount Olive College's traveling gospel group.

"I heard the New Creations sing before I came to Mount Olive and I decided it was something I would really like to do," she said.

Debbie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George T. Sharp of Rock Ridge. They are members of Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church.

DR. RAPER TO SPEAK

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will be guest speaker at Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, in Sampson County, Sunday, November 5, at the 11 a. m. service.

The Rev. Cedric Pierce is pastor.

MRS. RILEY TO SPEAK

Mrs. Dianne Riley, Associate Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College, will speak at Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly, Sunday, November 5, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. James Joyner is pastor.

ADMISSIONS OFFICERS IN SCHOOLS

The Admissions officers at Mount Olive College, Russell W. Duncan and Dianne B. Riley will be visiting in the following high schools. Free Will Baptist students attending these high schools are invited to come by for a visit and bring their friends.

November 1, 2— Forsyth County High Schools
Surry County High Schools
Davie County High Schools

November 3— College for a Day program in Beaufort, Sampson, and Cumberland County High Schools

COLLEGE DINNERS SET FOR NOVEMBER

The following county dinners to benefit Mount Olive College have been scheduled in November. As College

Dinners are planned the information will be listed in the Free Will Baptist.

BEAUFORT COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 7 p. m., Chocowinity High School, Oscar Webster, chairman.

CARTERET COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 6:30 p. m., East Carteret High School, Reginald Styron and Nathan Garner, co-chairman.

DUPLIN COUNTY—Saturday, November 4, 6 p. m., East Duplin High School, William E. Futch, chairman.

EDGECOMBE-HALIFAX COUNTIES—Thursday, November 2, 7:30 p. m., First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, Rufus Harrell, chairman.

JOHNSTON-WAKE COUNTIES—Monday, November 6, 7 p. m., Smithfield-Selma High School, Dallas Pinkham, chairman.

PAMLICO COUNTY—Saturday November 18, 6:30 p. m., Camp Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, chairman.

PITT COUNTY—Tuesday, November 14, 7 p. m., D. H. Conley High School, Gary Bailey, chairman.

SAMPSON, HARNETT CUMBERLAND COUNTIES—Thursday, November 16, 7 p. m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, chairman.

WASHINGTON, MARTIN, TYRELL, and PASQUOTANK COUNTIES—Tuesday, November 7, 7:30 p. m., Washington County Union School, David Cahoon, chairman.

WILSON COUNTY—Tuesday, November 21, 7 p. m., Beddingfield School, James B. Hunt Sr., chairman.

NEW CREATIONS TO PERFORM

The New Creations of Mount Olive College will perform a program of song and testimony at Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Clayton, at 7:30 p. m. Sunday, November 5.

The Rev. Billy Yawn is pastor.

Coming Events . . .

November—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 2—Cape Fear Conference, Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church, near Dunn

November 4—Third League Union Eastern District, Hillsberry Free Will Baptist Church, Clinton

November 8—Central Conference, Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church, near Snow Hill

November 11—High School Day for Seniors, 10 a. m. to 3 p. m. on the Mount Olive College Campus

November 12—Children's Home Day in local churches

November 15—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 11 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

November 15—Board of Directors of Retirement Homes Meeting, 1 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

November 18—Thanksgiving Service, 10:30 a. m., Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

November 21—Founder's Day, 11 a. m. worship service, Mount Olive College

November 23—Thanksgiving Day

November 23—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

November 23-26—Thanksgiving Holidays, Mount Olive College

FILM TO BE SHOWN AT LITTLE ROCK, LUCAMA

To Russia with Love

This gripping motion picture speaks to the heart. Many of the shots were filmed **inside Russia** and give eloquent testimony to the fact that hunger for the Word of God is very real in that land of multiple closed churches. It graphically portrays life today for many thousands of Christians in the communist third of the world.

Secret arrangements were made in advance for an English-speaking Russian Christian to rendezvous with an Underground Evangelism photographer on a visit to Russia. The two met quietly at the appointed hour, and for the next few weeks our cameraman captured a revealing glimpse of the underground church at worship. He found himself deeply moved by what he saw. . . the closed churches, the status of Christians living under Communism. **TO RUSSIA WITH LOVE** faithfully records all this.

An actual border crossing, which helps portray Underground Evangelism's wide-scale, Bible-smuggling ministry, is also seen.

During the first part of the film, the voice of Stefan Bankou, a young Christian lay pastor whose escape to the West with his wife and two children is dramatized in the film, is heard speaking in Bulgarian. English overtones are those of our narrator.

The public is cordially invited to view this film at Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama, North Carolina, on November 19, 1978, at 7:30 p. m. There is no admission charge. However, a free will offering for Bibles will be received at the close of the showing.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Rev. Edgar Benton has now been called and has accepted full-time pastoral work at Barnes Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Rocky Mount. All correspondence for him should be sent to the Rev. Edgar Benton, Route 1, Box 395A, Fremont, North Carolina 27830. He may be reached at (919) 242-5283.

From the evangelical news front:

ONE EVANGELICAL SPEAKS OUT

The survival of evangelical Christianity in an age of theological disunity depends upon a continued commitment to Jesus Christ and His unchangeable teachings, so says Dr. Donald Bloesch, professor of theology at Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque Iowa, as he spoke to the National Association of Evangelicals recently.

"The evangelical coat should be one of many colors," he said. "But we must steer clear of selling out to current thought." Dr. Bloesch referred to the charismatic movement as one such current thought which, in his words, has "weakened the spiritual unity of the evangelical community."

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For November 12

REVERENCE FOR THE SABBATH

Lesson Text: Matthew 12:1-8; Exodus 20:8-11

Memory Verse: Deuteronomy 5:12

I. INTRODUCTION

From the time when the people of Israel came out of Egypt, the Sabbath was a part of their national life. That does not mean they always respected it, however. The time came when they were ruled by greed more than by God and they broke all the Ten Commandments.

In the Israel of Amos, about 760 B.C., it seems that greedy merchants did keep the Sabbath after a fashion. But they could hardly wait for the holy day to end so they could get back to their crooked business (Amos 8:4-6). God warned that they would go into captivity if they did not change their ways (Amos 5:27). Less than half a century later they did go into captivity (2 Kings 18:9-12).

That left little Judah as the sole remnant of the once-great empire of Israel. After another century Judah too went into captivity (2 Chronicles 36:14-21). According to God's promise, the nearly empty land then rested for seventy years to make up for the long-neglected Sabbath (Jeremiah 25:11; Leviticus 26:34, 35, 43).

After the captivity, a remnant of the Jews went back to Jerusalem, zealous for God's nation, God's land, and God's Law. But greed was still with them, and soon asserted its power. When Nehemiah came to be their governor he found that God's law was not much respected and the Sabbath was continually broken. He remonstrated sternly, locked the gates on the Sabbath Day, and threatened the foreign traders who camped outside the wall.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. As a teacher you will want to stress three things in this lesson. First, show why the Lord gave the Sabbath. The need for the Sabbath is in the nature of man and his relationship to God. Second, show that in the Old Testament the Sabbath was Saturday, the last day of the week; but that under the dispensation of grace we are given the Lord's Day which is the first day of the week, Sunday. If you do not do this, you will have a problem with some of your class who have read Seventh Day Adventist literature or have heard Ted Armstrong's program on radio and television, "The World Tomorrow." Third, you will want to deal with the New Testament passages by showing the interpretation that Jesus placed upon the Sabbath.

B. The Fourth Commandment is unique in many ways. More space is given to it in the Bible than to any of the other nine commandments. We do not understand why, but the Holy Spirit saw fit to give more space to this commandment than to any other. It is the only one that mentions the creation. It is also unique in that it is the only one of the ten not repeated in the New Testament and thus made binding on Christians. This commandment also serves as a bridge between the two great divisions of the commandments. The first four deal with our relationship to God and the last six with our relationship to man.

C. Why is the Fourth Commandment not binding on Christians? In the first place, the Jewish Sabbath was a sign between God and His people, the Jews (Ezekiel 20:12). In the second place, Jesus blotted out the "ordinances . . . against us" (Colossians 2:14). Furthermore, as recorded in each of the Gospels, the Resurrection, which we commemorate each Sunday, occurred on "the first day of the week." Under the Old Testament law, salvation was by works and looked toward the Sabbath, the last day of the week; under grace, salvation is the gift of God by faith, achievement through the Resurrection.

D. The Fourth Commandment is unique in several ways. First, more space is given to it in the Bible than to any other of the Ten Commandments. Second, it is the only one of the Ten Commandments identified with the creation. Third, it is the only one of the Ten Commandments not repeated in the New Testament. Be sure to note these points as you study the lesson.

E. The incident of the disciples walking through a grainfield and eating grain on the Sabbath shows us that the needs of man are more important to God than the letter of the law. Jesus teaches that the law is fulfilled in love for God and for one's fellowman. Love will minister to the needs of people regardless of what day of the week it is. This seems to be the clear teaching of Jesus on this matter.

F. The disciples were so closely identified with Jesus that when they ate the grain, the Pharisees came to Jesus. Jesus accepted the acts of His disciples as His and defended them by challenging the Pharisees. When we are closely identified with Him, we can expect Him to defend us from the enemies that would attack us.

G. God wanted the Israelites to keep the Ten Commandments for two reasons. First, it reminded them of the fact that God rested on the seventh day after He had finished the creation. Second, it reminded them that God had brought them out of Egyptian bondage with His grace and mercy. It reminded them of their dependence upon God and not upon themselves.

H. Christians are responsible for keeping the Lord's Day and not the Sabbath. The Lord's Day is the first day of the week, and the Sabbath is the last day of the week. Our bodies need one day out of seven to rest and refresh themselves. Our spirits need one day a week to worship and feast upon God's Word. The man who ignores this matter of the Lord's Day is not only ignoring a command of the Lord, but he is "burning the candle at both ends."

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. God created the universe and the earth and all therein, including man, in six days; He rested on the seventh, and

He ". . . blessed the seventh day , and sanctified it . . ." (Genesis 2:3). It was later called the Sabbath Day, taken from the Hebrew word shabath, meaning "to rest." The Sabbath was a period from Friday evening to Saturday evening, which is still observed by the Jews and some Christian groups.

B. The Lord's Day was recognized by the early Christians as their day of rest becauses the Lord rose from the tomb on that day—the first day of the week. We call it Sunday, and it actually begins the week, rather than Monday. Saturday, or the Sabbath, is the last day of the week. Following the title of our lesson we will use the term Sabbath throughout our study, but we understand it to mean the Lord's Day, Sunday.

C. Devout Christians observe the Sabbath as a day of rest and worship. Thery believe it is still a holy day, to be dedicated to reverence for God. Nations that have forgotten the Sabbath have suffered the loss of many precious liberties. This is particularly true of such nations as Russia. John McLean said, "Where there is no Christian Sabbath there is no Christian morality; and without this, free institutions cannot long be sustained."

D. Jesus revered and respected the Sabbath, and He never intended to destroy it, as His enemies charged.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

NOT BY BREAD ALONE

A Religious Essay
By Ida Wooten Tripp

They are going to banish me to a desert island to spend the remainder of my life.

"We will provide you with all the necessities of life," they say. "You will have food to sustain you in health, shelter to protect you from the rain and the wind and the sun, clothing to cover yourself, and a climate warm and comfortable."

I tell them, "I have to have more, or I will wither and die."

They confer among themselves. "We have no wish to be cruel," they say. "We will allow you to take one thing, and one thing only. It must be small—something you can carry in your hand."

I must make a decision, and on it my life may well depend. I feed the facts and my questions into the computer, and it gives me back the answers:

How will I stand the terrible loneliness that will be my lot? What will I do in all those endless months and years without the sound of a human voice?

The answer comes forth, "I am with you, even to the end of the world."

What will I think about? Will my mind waste away with disuse? "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God . . . So teach us, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Who will comfort me when I am sick, and there is no one to help me?"

The answer is there: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

And when my life is ending, who will give me solace?

"For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. . .He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust."

I pick up the black-bound book. "I am ready," I say, smiling. "I am carrying the whole world in my hand."

IN MEMORIAM JEFFREY VAN ANDERSON



Jeffrey Van Anderson

The following memorial was given on Sunday morning, October 8, 1978, by the Ambassadors and Bible School of 1978 during a dedication service at New Haven Free Will Baptist Church in memory of Jeffrey Van Anderson. A desk and chair was presented to the church in memory of Jeff. An earlier service, held in August, alo in his memory, was the occasion for the dedication of a new pulpit for the church purchased through a fund set up in his memory.

It was Saturday, 6:50 p. m., the 25th day of August, 1962, when a blessing weighing 7 pounds, 15 ounces was bestowed upon Van and Cathy Anderson. This red haired baby boy named Jeffrey Van Anderson was born in New Bern, North Carolina, in the old Craven County Hospital. Jeffrey was blessed, too, for he had loving parents and grandparents. His paternal grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Anderson and his maternal grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Rodman L. Whitford. One year later this family was blessed with Lisa Dawn Anderson, Jeff's only sister.

Bridgeton Elementary School was the place Jeff celebrated his sixth birthday on the second day of school. This was his formal learning home for six years. Jeff then attended Farm Life Elementary School in Vanceboro from which he graduated in the eighth grade.

When Jeff reached the age of eight, his father was taken from him and his family by a motorcycle accident. Jeff, left without a father, became his granddaddy Whitford's shadow. From the time Jeff was a small child his mother and sister and granddaddy went to Sunday school and church. His mother taught him about Jesus at a very young age.

Jeff learned to drive a tractor and a truck, how to fish and to shoot, which was most important to Jeff, through the gentle loving instructions of his granddaddy. Among Jeff's other favorite things were eating at McDonald's, hunting, playing baseball, working with his hands, and playing the guitar. Jeff also enjoyed the Dallas Cowboys, the Cincinnati Reds, and the North Carolina Tarheels, which also represented his favorite color. Jeff valued his friendship with Mike Jones. Sundays after church seemed to be always finding them together.

Childhood was the beginning of Jeff's responsibility in church activities. When he was nine, he attended a revival at Spring Hope Free Will Baptist Church. This evening became another blessing in the life of the Andersons because the child they had been given gave his life to

(Continued on Page 15)



story corner

FORTY YEARS OF WANDERING

GOD is patient with us. He is a forgiving God. But there came a time when God's patience was at an end. Just as He was ready for the Hebrews to enter Canaan, they found they had tried God's patience and forgiveness too often. He refused to let them capture Canaan because they still did not trust Him completely. He had saved them so many times it would seem they would trust Him. But they doubted and questioned Him.

As punishment for this, they were not to be allowed to settle in Canaan. They must wander around in the desert until these leaders were dead. The people who were only children at the time would be allowed to capture Canaan, settle there, and build their homes.

Some did not believe God would do this to them after bringing them all the way from Egypt. They tried to go on into Canaan. They were soon destroyed by the armies of the people who lived in Canaan.

Moses led the Hebrews back to the south, away from Canaan. They found an oasis in the desert and made their camp there.

For forty years they moved from place to place. The people were not happy. Some of them realized they had caused their own misery. But some wanted to blame others.

One man wanted to blame Moses. He was Korah, a Levite and a member of Moses' own tribe. He began to say to his friends, "I am a Levite, the same as Aaron. Why should he be chief priest and give orders to me? I am just as good as he."

He gathered his friends and said wicked things about Aaron and Moses. Soon many of them began to be jealous of Moses and Aaron. When jealousy is allowed to grow in the heart of a person, it soon makes a wicked person of someone who was good.

One day these men came before Moses. "You rule over us as if you were some great person. We are as good as you. We are just as fit to be rulers as you are."

Moses was hurt by their words. He knew he had not set himself over them as a ruler, but had been ordered by God to lead them.

The men spoke evil of Aaron. Moses knew Aaron had not chosen to be the chief priest, but had been ordered by God and had dedicated his whole life to serving God.

Moses said, "Each of you return to the tabernacle with lamps of incense as the priests use. We will let God decide who shall rule and who shall be the priests."

The story spread through the camp. The Hebrews all gathered the next day to see what would happen.

Two hundred fifty men came with Korah. They all were jealous and wanted to be leaders and priests. Every man brought an incense lamp to place before God. Aaron came, in the beautiful robes of the chief priest. He placed his lamp on the altar.

God was angry. These men had broken a law He had carved in the stone. They had been jealous! God told Moses to get away from these men; He was ready to destroy the whole camp of Hebrews.

Moses fell on his face and prayed for the Hebrews. They had not all sinned.

So God said he would destroy only these men who had let jealousy make them evil.

The Hebrews heard this and all ran back, away from Korah and his friends.

Moses turned to Korah. "Now we shall see whether I chose to put myself up to rule over you or whether God chose Aaron and me. If we were chosen by God, let the ground open up and swallow you!" he cried.

Just then a terrible earthquake shook the whole camp. People were terrified.

As Korah and his friends felt the earth begin to shake beneath their feet, they wanted to run away. But they were not able to move. Suddenly the ground began to crack and split. All of these men fell through the crack in the earth.

Just as if it had been the mouth of some huge animal, the earth closed together again.

The people saw what had happened. But they found it hard to believe what they had seen. They looked again at the spot where the men had stood. Not one of them was there. The earth had swallowed them because of their sin of jealousy.

The Hebrews were a stubborn people. This should have been enough to frighten them. But there were a few who did not have enough sense to be afraid! They began to say that Moses and Aaron were the cause of it all, that they had magic powers, not of God, but of Satan!

God was angry and he sent a sickness into the camp. It spread and people began to die.

Moses and Aaron were not glad to see these people die. If they had not been good, dedicated men, they would have been happy to have them punished. But they wanted to save the people.

They gathered all the dead people in one place, and Aaron brought the holy fire from the altar. He stood between the living and the dead while Moses prayed for the disease to stop.

God heard the prayer and no one else died. The disease went away. But many thousands had already died of it.

God told Moses he would give more proof to the people that He, not Moses, had chosen Aaron to be the priest so that there would be no reason for jealousy.

Moses told the people what God said. "Let the leader of each tribe bring his staff into the holy room of the tabernacle; mark them, and place Aaron's staff in with them. In the morning the staff of the man chosen by God will have come back to life and sorout buds of new growths.

The people would be satisfied with this. The staff was a limb of a tree which had been carved to make a walking stick. Every person had one, for walking in the rocks and mountains was hard. The wood of the staff was long dead.

The next morning when they examined the staffs, they found eleven were just as they had been the night before, dead wood. But Aaron's had turned into green wood, grown roots, and begun to put out branches overnight. There was no mistake. Aaron had been chosen by God to be the chief priest in charge of the tabernacle and worship.

The staff of Aaron was planted in the tabernacle court for all to see and would always remind the people that God had chosen His priest.

For forty years these people moved from oasis to oasis in the desert. They did not try again to enter Canaan, for they realized now that God would not allow it.

One by one the people died. The children grew up and became adults. As the boys grew, they were trained as soldiers so that the army of the Hebrews would be ready when God said that they could go to take Canaan.

Only two of the men who had been adults when the spies went into Canaan would be alive to enter the Promised Land! These were to be Caleb and Joshua, the only two who had faith enough to trust God.

Not even Moses and Aaron would be allowed to live in Canaan. Next week we shall see why they were not allowed to go.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

IN MEMORIAM

(Continued from Page 15)

the Lord. Jeff was baptized in the Neuse River and made his church home at New Haven Free Will Baptist Church in the Caton community.

As Jeff grew, so did his responsibility in church. He served his church as a head usher and president of the Ambassadors for Christ for two years. Jeff also sang out for Christ as a member of the Youth Choir. For two years, he played the part of Jesus hanging on the Cross in the Easter Sunrise Service given by the young people.

If Jeff wasn't in the choir he could be found on the front left side pew with the other ushers. His favorite church services were communion and Easter Sunrise Service.

Jeff always found time for everyone. He was blessed with being able to relate to young as well as the old. This special gift will keep the memory of Jeff and his love for others in the hearts of many for years to come. Jeff has gone home now leaving his mother, step-father, Kirby B. Norman, grandparents, and sister, Lisa, to be thankful for the time they had him and to carry his memory in their hearts.

FOOTSTEPS

Grandpa, your footsteps were so big
As I'd leap from left to right.
Your hands were so strong
As I'd slip mine in very tight.

I grew tired when running
Just to keep with your walk.
I kept growing and learning
By attentively listening to your talk.

I grew older and wider
But somehow the footprints grew with my perceptions.
They became more than just steps
As I began to see their depth and directions.

Your footsteps taught me depth
With the Lord as the guide.
Your hands taught me His security
For He's where heartaches and love hide.

Teach others that someone is leaping
Left to right behind each of them.
To be careful what they represent
Because there's always a hand reaching for Him.

I was no longer a grandchild
Whose arms grew tired reaching up for you.
I was at the beginning of adulthood
With dreams and issues to argue.

Suddenly, my steps advanced yours
For the Lord came to take me home.
I'm here with Him now Grandpa
No longer grasping; no more to roam.

Praise our Father, Grandpa
For I'm happy and waiting for all of you.
Please shed no tears; just rejoice
And remember, I love you.

—Cindy Rouse

HONOR YOUR PASTOR

The Free Will Baptist is planning to feature a column dedicated to honor a Free Will Baptist pastor each week. If you would like to honor your pastor, send a black and white glossy picture of him or his family. This photo will be returned, if you wish. It is also asked that you tell why you wish to honor him. Give information about his family, his activities in the denomination, and any of his accomplishments that have improved your church. Thank you for your concern and consideration in this matter. Let's honor your pastor today!

—Editorial Department

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

NOVEMBER IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH



". . . for promises fulfilled
WE GIVE THEE THANKS"

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE
and meeting of the
Free Will Baptist Historical Society

NOVEMBER 18, 1978
at 10:30 a. m.

MEMORIAL CHAPEL
on the campus
Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.

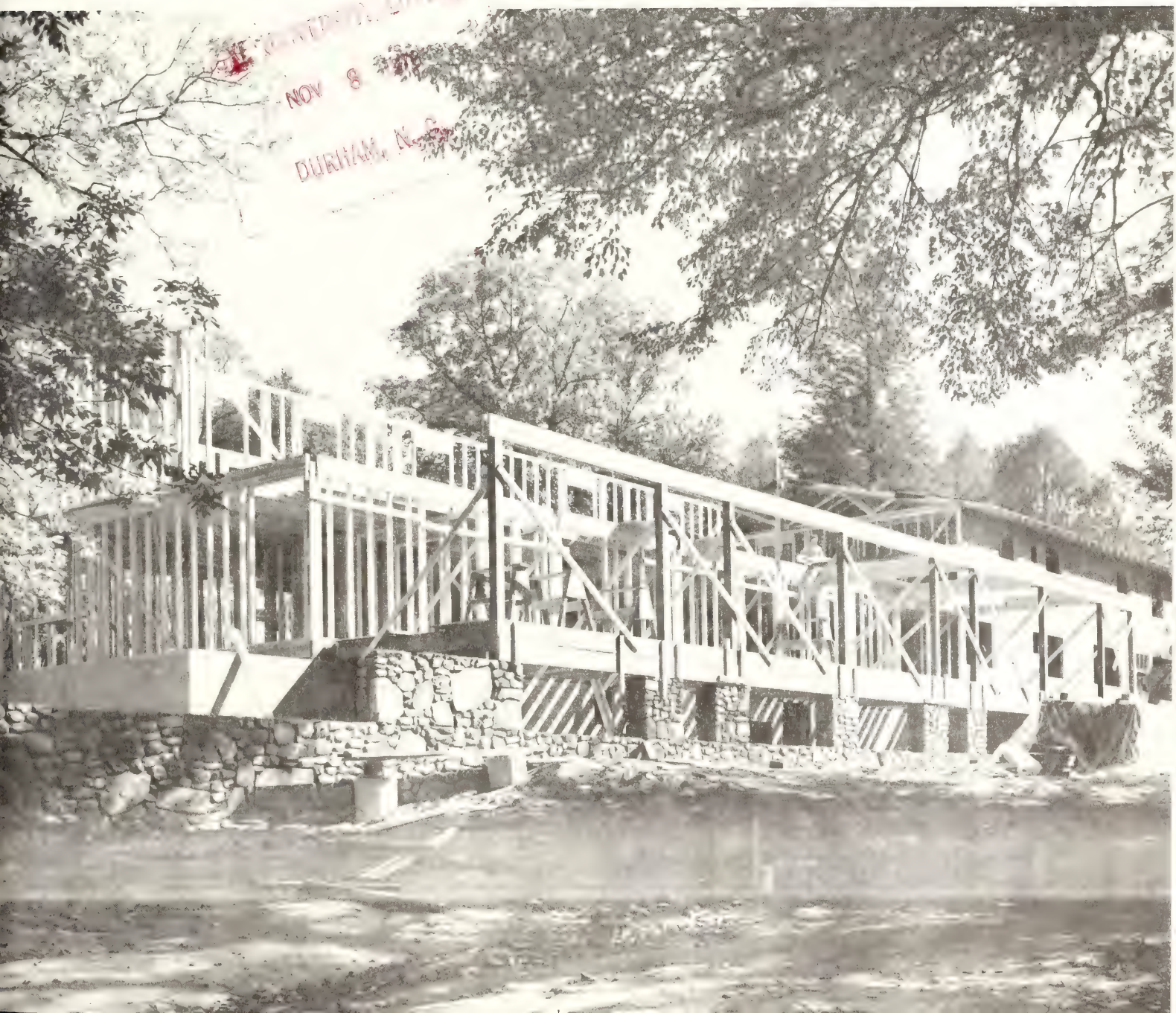
(Bring a picnic lunch and join us for lunch on the grounds and a tour of our campus.)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

AS WE APPROACH THE THANKSGIVING SEASON LET US BEGIN TO GIVE THANKS FOR THE SPIRITUAL BLESSING THAT IS CRAGMONT. READ PAGE THREE AND SEE WHAT WE MEAN

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

NOV 8
DURHAM, N.C.



Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

Cover Photo by
Edward L. DuPuy

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LET US HELP YOU HONOR YOUR PASTOR

Any pastor who has served his people a reasonable length of time deserves to be honored.

Business firms do this for their executives and employees—even if it is only in the form of a fifty-three dollar watch given for forty-four years of "faithful service."

Boards of education, college officials, and others do the same for deserving coworkers.

Honoring your pastor for his devotion and loyalty to your church may very well be long overdue.

We know you have your own ways of honoring your pastor. Some churches may raise his salary a little more than he expected, and that certainly is not bad. Others buy him a fine new car when his old one has been worn out long ago in pastoral service. And then there are other ways, and most of us know what some of these ways are.

But may we suggest another one?

In last week's issue of **The Free Will Baptist** you found a suggestion from the editorial department on page 15. You will notice that we would like to run a weekly column honoring pastors whose members respond to our suggestion. We cannot select these pastors; you must do that. Does your pastor deserve the time it will take you to get up the material on him and send it to us?

Please follow these important instructions carefully: (1) Send a picture of him and his family, perhaps grouped in front of your parsonage or in some attractive room of his home. (2) Also send a **new** picture of the pastor himself, a closeup if you will. (3) Please send black and white pictures with a glossy finish, not a small snapshot, but one preferably made by a professional photographer or someone in your church who has a good camera and is accustomed to taking good pictures. (4) Enclose some newsworthy information about him. The following will be helpful: the length of his pastorate with you, names of his family members, the most outstanding accomplishments he has made while in your church, something about his personality and his ability to meet the needs of your congregation, and the like.

If you care to, you might add his educational advantages, things he has written for his denomination, and any other material you feel would enhance his image among our people.

Will yours be the first pastor to be so honored?

Don't disappoint him—or us.

Volume 93 Number 44

NOVEMBER 8, 1978

The Rev. C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

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PERIODIC REPORTS from Cragmont Assembly reveal what the management has encouragingly termed "amazing progress" made within the past months. The picture at the right shows the rear of the new building in construction. The large assembly room will extend out from this area of the building. The cover picture shows the front of the building, the left end of which will lead to an inviting, comfortable porch.



THE CONSTRUCTION AT CRAGMONT GOES ON AND ON

by the Rev. Gary Bailey, Cragmont Board Member

IN August of this year the Board of Directors of Cragmont Assembly authorized the signing of a contract with C. Cliff Meyer of Black Mountain for the construction of a new main building for Cragmont.

Much work was done prior to the signing of the contract. All water lines for the Assembly had to be reworked. Many of the drives had to be upgraded. The old building had to be removed. The architect had to draw plans for the proposed building. The Assembly had to be reincorporated because of some legal matters. All of these things cost a great deal of money but because of the faithfulness of Free Will Baptists everything was paid for and money was still accumulating in the building fund.

Only a few days after the contract was signed, the machinery was moved in to begin excavation and construction. As you have been able to see by the pictures published periodically in this paper, progress has been amazing. The building is supposed to be completely "dried in" by winter so the contractor can work throughout the winter months. Completion date has been set for early May 1979.

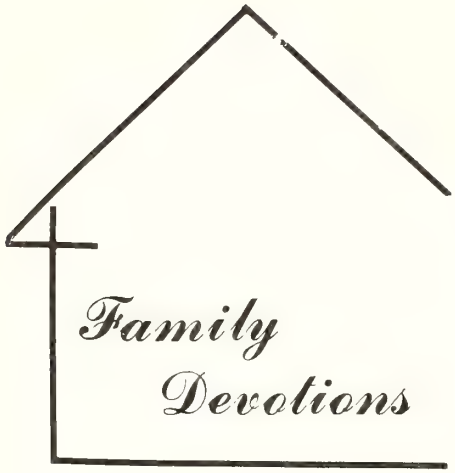
The building will have an apartment for the manager, offices for the Assembly, a large entrance hall, rooms for guests, a bath for every two rooms, and a large assembly room (to seat 200 plus) with a great fireplace. This building is going to be a great addition to Cragmont. With it the camp can better accommodate retreats, the Woman's Conference, the Minister's Conference and all summer encampments. Also, because the building will be heated, the camp can operate for a longer season allowing for more retreats later into the fall of the year.

The contract signing in late summer specified the cost at a maximum of $400,000. The Board of Directors prayerfully considered this large sum of money. Cragmont never before has made such an important move. They decided to go ahead after considering that God would bless Cragmont through the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

We are asking Free Will Baptists who believe in what Cragmont has meant to so many to give liberally so that we can meet the construction costs. All the money in our building fund has been paid out for construction already completed. We now are going into the loan from the Church Finance Association. We still need regular gifts from our churches to help us meet the expenses and repay the loan. (A loan in the amount of $275,000 has been approved by the Church Finance Association.)

This article is not a desperate attempt to ask for money. We are not begging anyone or any church to give. The Board of Directors in going ahead with construction is doing what Free Will Baptists have said we want to do. Now as progress continues, we ask that you give prayerfully to help meet the expenses. Pray for the manager and his wife, pray for the Board of Directors, pray for Cragmont and give as you know you should. Cragmont is yours and so will this new building be as soon as we complete the payments.

To have a good friend is one of the highest delights of life; To be a good friend is one of the noblest and most difficult undertakings.—Anonymous



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Revelation 3:9

"I VOTED TO CLOSE THE CHURCH"

Last Sunday I voted to close the church; not intentionally, not maliciously, perhaps, but carelessly, thoughtlessly, lazily, indifferently, I voted. I voted to close its doors that its witness and its testimony might be stopped. I voted to close the open Bible on its pulpit—the Bible that had been given us by years of struggle and by the blood of martyrs who died that we might have it to read.

For, you see, I could have gone and I should have gone, but I didn't. I stayed away from church last Sunday.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you ever stayed home from church, only to learn later that you missed something important? You probably said, "I sure wish I'd been there. I would not have agreed with that discussion or that really is not the most proper thing that you could have done." The proper reply would be, "Be there next time."

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 11:28

"MORE GOOD THAN SERMONS!"

A widow and her six children were stricken with a contagious illness. One morning at breakfast the minister's wife announced that she was going to take care of the stricken family. Her own family protested, but she only quoted a part of the ninety-first Psalm: "Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday." And, "There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling."

"I believe that Psalm means just what it says," she told the others. "It is a clear call for me to go. God will take care of you."

She went, and was in that home for five weeks. When they were practically well again she went back home. Neither she nor her family contracted the disease. Her kindly act did more to raise the spiritual level of that community than all the sermons her husband preached.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of you have done a kind deed for your neighbor? Have you visited him when he was sick or unable to work? Have you helped him when he was down and out? Christ loves you when you help someone.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—Matthew 15:9

AN AGE-OLD PROBLEM—ABSENTEEISM

Absenteeism is not the problem of industry alone; the church knows a great deal of it as well. As far back as the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, Thomas was an absentee, and he missed one of the most eventful weeks in history. His absenteeism tended to unbelief . . . . We recently heard of a brother in a place where a gathering was to be held who asked another brother, "Do you know whom we are to have with us today?" The latter began naming one prominent speaker after another until the first brother said, "Why, no—the Lord Himself!" He has vouchsafed His presence in the midst of His saints. Absenteeism means the missing of His blessed presence at the service.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you ever told someone that you missed him when he was sick and unable to attend church? He would like to know that you missed him.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Exodus 4:31

KEEPING BALANCE

One of our friends is a policeman. He is a regular church-goer and gives liberally of his time when it would be very easy to beg off because of the nature of his job. Because this is a somewhat uncommon combination, we asked him why his church meant so much to him. "Well," he said, "I'll tell you exactly what I tell our young recruits when they come on the force. I tell them that in the job they have chosen, most of their contacts will be on the seamy side. That they won't meet too many folks they will want to invite in for Sunday dinner. That even some of our 'best people' are not exactly sweetness and light when caught in a minor traffic violation. So I suggest that they tie up with some church to give them balance, to give them something to hang on to when circumstances of their work make them think the whole world is drunk or crooked. A policeman without something of spiritual value to lean on soon becomes a poor policeman."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God likes to be carried around on the job. He likes for people to witness twenty-four hours a day for Him.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—Acts 17:23

"CROWN HIM LORD!"

Friends at the bedside of a noble and aged missionary noticed her lips move feebly. Bending low, they caught the faintly uttered word, "Bring!"

Asked they, "Bring What? Your medicine?" Then, with smiles wreathing her face, the missionary said with her last breath, "Bring forth the royal diadem and crown Him Lord of all!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of us are ready to crown Him Lord of all in our lives?

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—Acts 15:3

"I'D RATHER HAVE JESUS!"

It was in the thirties. Business curves were still heading downward and there was rumor of a salary cut at the New York insurance office where 22-year-old Beverly Shea was employed as a clerk. Possessor of a deep melodious voice, the young man was offered a radio contract and immediately saw opportunities for fame and possible riches in his regular appearance on a secular program.

Shea had been pondering the matter several days when he sat down to the

piano early one Sunday morning to rehearse a hymn he was to sing in church that morning. As he played and sang his eyes fell on a piece of paper, on which was written:

"I'd rather have Jesus than
silver or gold,
I'd rather be His than have
riches untold!"

The poem, by Mrs. Rhea Miller, had been placed where Beverly would see it by his mother, a minister's wife, who knew of the offer her son was pondering. Above all, she wanted her son, a Christian, to become wholly consecrated in His service.

As his eyes raced over the words, "I'd rather have Jesus than men's applause" and "I'd rather have Jesus than worldwide fame" were sentences which struck his very heart.

His fingers unconsciously left the tune he was rehearsing and began to find the melody which is today known to millions.

Several days after, the director who spoke to Shea in behalf of the radio network was amazed to receive a firm "no" in response to the offer. "No" was a strange word to the director's ear as thousands of singers would have leaped at such an opportunity as was proposed to the young bass-baritone.

From that time forward, the words of the poem "I'd Rather Have Jesus" set to music became his testimony. Today Shea is realizing his ambition to sing the gospel on the radio. He is sponsored on a hymn program and is heard on many youth programs.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you ever listened to the words of the song, "I'd Rather Have Jesus"? Why not listen very carefully the next time you hear it? It could have a message for you.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 10:16

FRANKLIN'S STORY OF
THE SPECKLED AX

Benjamin Franklin, in his autobiography, tells of the man who bought an ax from the local blacksmith. The purchaser wanted the whole of its surface as bright as its edge, and this the smith consented to do, provided the man would turn the wheel while he ground it. It was a hard, wearisome job and often the man stopped to see how the ax was getting on. "Turn on, turn on," said the smith; "we shall have it bright by and by; as yet it is only speckled." "Yes," said the man, "but I think I like a speckled ax best."

Is this not the case with many of God's children? Instead of going all the way into the fully consecrated and victorious Christian life, they become satisfied with "a speckled ax" Christian experience, God's second best for them.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Are you giving your best to God? You should always be ready to put your best foot forward.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

IN MEMORIAM

In relating the parable of the talents, Jesus said that the man said to those who had gained other talents; "Well done thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Surely, when he came to the end of life's little day, Mr. Marvin Barnett received this kind of commendation from the Master of all good workmen.

Mr. Barnett was a quiet unassuming man, always esteeming others above himself. He could fill the position of captain if you wished him to, but he would always place himself with the crew.

He was a member of Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Pike Road Community, Route 1, Pantego, North Carolina. For over forty years he served in the office of deacon. The last several years he was senior deacon there. He was an active student of the Bible, possessing a profound knowledge of the Scripture. You would attest to this if you were in class when he taught Sunday school or studied in prayer meeting when he was the leader.

He loved his church. He knew her doctrine and practices and followed them religiously.

Marvin Hugh Barnett was born on October 14, 1900; he lost his mother when he was about five years old. He and three brothers lived with their father until he died when Marvin was twelve years old. He then made his home with his brother, John, in Belhaven, North Carolina.

He came to the Pungo community in 1921 where he spent the remainder of his life—having foster homes with Mr. Fenner Harris and Mr. Joe Paul.

Mr. Barnett was married March 6, 1932, to Ellen Harriet Carter. To this union were born two children, Mrs. Marie Huber and Marvin Hugh Barnett Jr., who survive. His wife, Ellen, died September 28, 1968.

He engaged in farming for a number of years before being employed by Weyerhaeuser Company in Plymouth, North Carolina. He remained there until his retirement.

He was married to Ada Heynen on October 12, 1969. As a result of this union he became the stepfather of four children; Henry O. Dunbar, William L. Dunbar, Mrs. Virginia Tetterton, and Mrs. Hazel Ange. These with his wife, Ada, survive.

Mr. Barnett died unexpectedly on June 4, 1978. His funeral was conducted by his step son-in-law, the Rev. Joe Ange and the Rev. Paul Grubbs, his pastor. There are 18 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Ever a devoted husband and father, his life was committed to their happiness and well being. His love and concern for his family, his church and his friends, endeared him to all whose life touched his.

But now—he has crossed over the river to rest in the sunlight of God's eternal day.

I think that the following prayer was Mr. Barnett's everyday intercession:

Teach me, good Lord,
To give, and not to count the cost;
To fight, and not to heed the wounds;
To toil, and not to seek for rest;
To labor, and not to ask for any reward,
save that of knowing that I do Thy
will. Amen.

A fellow church member,
Oscar Webster

We are all in a dark room. If you know where the light switch is, share the knowledge.

Anonymous



Missions

HOME MISSIONS CONTRIBUTIONS FIRST QUARTER JULY 1, 1978—SEPTEMBER 30, 1978

ALBEMARLE

Albemarle District Sunday School Convention	$ 104.50
Albemarle Union Meeting	113.00
Cape Colony Mission	35.00
Free Union (Beaufort County)	281.00
Hickory Chapel	163.58
Mount Tabor	50.00
Mount Zion	150.00
Shiloh	176.10
Sidney	50.00
Total	$1,123.18

CAPE FEAR

Bethel	$ 75.00
Cape Fear Conference	206.18
Casey's Chapel	40.00
Catalpa Mission	77.00
Daly's Chapel	50.00
Eastwood	30.00
Goldsboro, First	530.00
Haymount Mission	191.95
Hopewell	373.34
Johnston Union	75.00
Lee's Chapel	376.42
Mount Olive	10.00
Oak Grove	25.00
Palmer Memorial	49.09
Pleasant Grove	100.00
Powhatan	250.00
Riverside	200.00
Robert's Grove	150.00
Saint Mary's Grove	75.00
Shady Grove	127.85
Smyrna	50.00
Steven's Chapel	50.00
Tee's Chapel	418.00
Victory Mission	73.29
West Clinton	84.50
Wooten's Chapel	39.50
Yelverton Grove	120.00
Total	$3,847.12

CENTRAL

Ayden	$ 10.00
Bethany	44.50
Black Jack	299.49
Central Conference Layman's League	56.00
Community	12.50
Daniels Chapel	250.00
Dawson's Grove	18.00
Dilda's Grove	20.00
Edgewood	169.75
Free Union (Greene County)	116.38
Friendship (Greene County)	605.14
Greenville, First	225.00
Grimsley	125.50
Gum Swamp	230.62
Harrell's Chapel	225.00
Hickory Grove	9.27
Howell Swamp	50.00
Hugo	225.00
Hull Road	265.87
King's Cross Roads	120.52
LaGrange	106.00
Marlboro	100.00
Otter's Creek	50.00
Peace	17.75
Piney Grove	50.00
Reedy Branch	154.44
Roanoke Rapids, First	5.00
Rocky Mount, First	126.00
Rose Hill	130.00
Saratoga	75.00
Sweet Gum Grove	15.00
Walnut Creek	100.00
Williamston, First	525.60
Winterville	235.89
Total	$4,769.22

EASTERN

Angola	$ 60.00
Antioch	100.00
Arapahoe	300.00
Bethel (Pamlico County)	100.10
Bridgeton	48.00
Cabin	41.00
Christian Chapel	200.00
Core Creek	130.00
Core Point	20.00
Crab Point	9.95
Croatan	20.00
Davis	100.00
Dublin Grove	10.00
Faith	100.00
Fifth Sunday School Convention	10.00
Fifth Union Meeting	10.00
Folkstone	275.00
Friendship	127.96
Gethsemane	50.00
Grants Chapel	50.00
Gray Branch	347.84
Hillsberry	25.00
Holly Springs	1,550.75
Juniper Chapel	297.53
Lanier's Chapel	50.00
May's Chapel	125.00
Moseley's Creek	86.00
Northeast	124.00
Oak Grove	10.50
Oriental	14.90
Pearsall Chapel	20.00
Pilgrims Rest	47.00
Piney Grove	74.83
Rock of Zion	25.00
Rooty Branch	30.00
St. Mary's	200.00
Sarecta	170.00
Snow Hill	205.00
Sound View	87.98
Third Union District	15.00
Verona	5.00
Wardens Grove	105.33
Westside	15.78
Whaley's Chapel	35.00
Wintergreen	15.00
Woodrow, First	60.00
Total	$5,562.45

INDIVIDUALS

Askew, Lillie Mae	$ 2.00
Aycock, Ralph	100.00
Baker, Fred	50.00
Benoist, the Rev. Jesse C.	5.00
Brickhouse, Mildred	5.00
Britt, Sidney	5.00
Brown, the Rev. Bobby	10.00
Bryan, A. B.	10.00
Creech, Sharlene	10.00
Daughtry, Person	2.00
Duncan, Lester and Nancy	80.00
Ferrell, Gwen	15.00
Fournier, Susan Joe	2.00
Gray, Mary T.	1.00
Grice, Herbert	1.00
Harrell, John and Alice Sr.	8.00
Hayes, Mrs. Jenny	25.00
Heath, Mr. and Mrs. Roy E.	5.00
Heath, Roger and Mary	5.00
Hill, Andrew	10.00
Hobgood, Mrs. Annie	1.00
Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Royal	10.00
Jones, Randall	5.00
Joyner, the Rev. and Mrs. James	10.00
Kennedy, Arthur	50.00
Kennedy, Percy	150.00
Kivett, the Rev. and Mrs. James	10.00
Kuhn, Jay and Cindy	1.00
Lanier, Mr. and Mrs. Hardy	2.00
McLamb, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas	5.00
Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Wade	5.00

Nunnery, John C.	1.00
Padgett, C. A.	5.00
Phelps, Maurene	1.00
Phillips, Frances	5.00
Raynor, Mrs. Hattie	1.00
Reddick, Mrs. David	1.00
Rhodes, Mr. and Mrs. Walter	25.00
Riley, Mrs. Dianne	25.00
Ritts, Amelia A.	5.00
Rogers, Furnie and Lois	10.00
Rose, Mildred	5.00
Sexton, Priscilla	1.00
Stanley, Lillian	5.00
Sumner, the Rev. Ralph	5.00
Tew, Jeff	1.00
Tew, Letty	5.00
Tripp, Mrs. Lee	2.00
West, Mary	5.00
Wiggs, R. C.	2.00
Yates, Joseph and Doris	40.00
Total	$ 750.00

PEE DEE

Beaverdam	$1,118.22
Cypress Creek	18.00
Freedom Mission	100.00
Oak Grove	173.58
Pee Dee Union Number One	15.00
Total	$1,424.80

PIEDMONT

Baptist Road Cathedral	$ 40.00
East Rockingham	.50
Heritage Mission	235.46
Piedmont Conference	100.00
Total	$ 375.96

WESTERN

Calvary	$ 120.00
Everett Chapel	134.75
Fellowship	89.50
Fifth Union	100.00
Flood's Chapel	12.00
Fremont	2.50
Friendship	100.00
Kenly	61.32
Little Rock	50.00
Living Waters	50.00
Marsh Swamp	133.85
Micro	67.70
Milbournie	2.73
Mount Zion (Nash County)	42.95
Oak Grove	171.75
People's Chapel	81.17
Pine Level	23.52
Piney Grove	95.00
Pleasant Grove	1,828.32
Pleasant Hill	250.00
Pleasant Plain	75.00
Rains Cross Roads	110.00
Rock Springs	10.00
Rosebud	1.00
St. Mary's	215.00
Selma	25.00
Sherron Acres	150.00
Spring Hill	400.00
Stancil's Chapel	28.31
Stoney Creek	500.00
Stony Hill	2.50
Trinity	120.00
Unity (Wilson)	100.00
Unity (Durham)	75.00
Wilson, First	237.50
Total	$5,466.37

OTHERS

Mission Rally Cash Offerings	$ 140.71
North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary	120.37
Total	$ 261.08
Total Contributions	$23,580.18

TAYLOR HILL CONTINUES AS HOME MISSIONS DIRECTOR AND TREASURER

Because the Home Missions Board felt that the director should not be a member of the board, our state convention elected the Rev. Frances Garner to serve the unexpired term of Taylor Hill, while Hill continues to serve as director and treasurer.

Mr. Hill has given up his private business in order to devote more time to the Home Mission field. Mr. Hill states that he is now free to visit conferences and churches most any time except on Sunday mornings. He is still pastoring the Haymount Mission in Fayetteville. He feels that staying involved on a personal basis has helped him to be constantly aware of the prevailing conditions that go along with Home Missions work. Mr. Hill has been in Free Will Baptist Home Missions work for the past 15 years.

WE READ IT IN THIS PAPER

29 Years Ago

"On the second Sunday in June we started a two-weeks revival meeting in our new church, Stancil's Chapel. Large crowds came . . . There were 27 new members . . . 19 came by baptism and 8 moved their membership from other churches to ours . . . The Reverend Willie Renfrow did the preaching . . ." —Mrs. R. L. Peele.

"A marvelous two-weeks' revival closed Sunday afternoon May 22, at the Greenville Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina. Huge crowds attended the services each night. There were 48 professions of Christ and transfers of membership . . . thirty-one were baptized . . .

"Forty-one new names were added to the Greenville church, three to Reedy Branch, and two to the Hollywood Presbyterian Church . . ."—Dennis Harris, church clerk.

". . . Brother Clifton Rice just closed a meeting at Saints Delight Church in Greene County. There were twenty-eight converts in this meeting . . ."—Editorial Comments.

"On Sunday night, September 4, we began our revival meeting at Bethel F. W. B. Church, Pamlico County, Whortonsville, North Carolina. Reverend J. C. Griffin did the preaching . . . In the spring we had a revival . . . and there were around thirty people converted . . ."—Mrs. Wilson Whorton.

How about that? In these four revivals in 1949 there were 133 conversions. We can surely say that they really got them saved twenty-nine years ago.

NEWS & NOTES

Sweet Gum Grove Church Revival

Revival services are scheduled for Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Stokes, for the week of November 13 through 18. Services will begin each evening at 7:30 with the Rev. Foy Futrell as the visiting evangelist. He will be assisted by the pastor, the Rev. Joe Hudson. There will be special singing each night and a nursery will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend.

Smyrna Pastor Honored for 25 Years



Rev. W. A. Martin

The Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church, located in the Meadow community, celebrated a double 25th anniversary during its annual homecoming on Sunday, October 1, The occasion marked the 25th year the Rev. W. A. Martin has served as the church pastor. Mrs. Ethel Tart was also recognized for 25 years of continued service as the church clerk.

A tribute and an engraved plaque to Mr. and Mrs. Martin for their years of service was made by layman Ray G. Smith. Smith also presented a tribute and a plaque to Mrs. Tart.

''Twenty-five years ago on this date,'' said Smith, ''the Rev. and Mrs. Martin came to our small one-room church as its pastor and during the first business meeting directed by the Rev. Martin, Mrs. Ethel Tart was elected church clerk.''

During the tribute, Smith reviewed how the church had grown under their leadership and various situations which have taken place over the years which have been recorded in the church minutes by Mrs. Tart.

Robert's Grove Homecoming a Success

On Sunday, October 1, Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Dunn, observed homecoming-harvest day. Sunday school opened at 10 a. m. under the direction of the superintendents, Bobby Johnson and Gary Faircloth, with 113 present for Sunday school. The day started as usual, but it didn't stay that way for long. During the worship service, Byron Ray Jackson, Jacksonville, North Carolina, a neighborhood boy and a former member of the church, delivered a wonderful message. Ray has had a bout with terminal cancer from which God has so miraculously healed him. He quoted many passages of Scripture, but the one he continuously referred to was 2 Chronicles 7:14, ''If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal their land.''

At the close of the sermon, the harvest day offering was placed on the communion table with a total amount of $5,131.70. Lunch was served in the fellowship hall where everyone enjoyed a delicious meal. Gary Faircloth was in charge of a very sacred memorial service, which was closed with a song by Susan Faircloth and Benjie Bryan entitled, ''When I've Gone the Last Mile of the Way.'' Next came singspiration time. Those participating in the song service were the Chancel Choir, Quartet, Dixie Honeycutt and her girls, the Chapel Choir, Susan Faircloth, Honeycutt Trio, and a special by Peyton Lee, a former member of the church. A very large crowd attended the homecoming, and it was enjoyed as a day of Spiritual fellowship.

Couple Celebrates 60 Years



Mr. and Mrs. Etheridge Narron

Mr. and Mrs. Etheridge Narron, of Route 2, Kenly, were recently honored by Stancil's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly, on their 60th Wedding Anniversary. The church presented the couple flowers, a crystal bud vase, and a cake cutting ceremony representing its respect and admiration for the two fellow members.

Cathedral Church Sets Dedication Services

The Cathedral Free Will Baptist Church, located on Highway 98 (Wake Forest Road), has set the dedication services for their new buildings. The church, the largest building on Highway 98 east of Durham, is 81 feet wide and 151 feet long with porches and entrance ways. The main auditorium seats 400 and its beauty is hard to describe. It has red-carpeted floors, all white pews with mahogany armrests and trim and red cushion seats and backs. Large chandelier lights with emblems of the Cross enhance the beauty. The Cathedral ceiling has an eighteen-foot center height. There is sufficient education space for a large Sunday school and possibly a ''day care'' center. The exterior of the building is utility brick.

First services were held in this building, October 15, with limited

facilities due to some incomplete construction. Two hundred and twenty attended, one was saved, and six joined the church during the worship services. God has truly blessed this church since its organization in February, 1977. The Rev. M. E. Cox is pastor and Mrs. Cox is in charge of the "junior church." The Rev. Jack L. Lassiter is associate pastor. The Free Will Baptist Press furnished some of the items and the Church Finance Association helped with a $70,000 loan.

Prayer services are conducted each morning at 10 a. m. in the prayer chapel. This is open to all that desire to join in "prayer time." All requests and needs are taken to God in faith, believing the answer is on the way. When you're in Durham, and if the "Cathedral" can be of service, please call 596-1500 or 596-1501. Expect a miracle today.

Watery Branch Church Welcomes New Pastor

The Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Smith began pastoral duties at Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Stantonsburg, July 1, 1978. The church has experienced a spiritual awakening in these three months. The attendance has grown, especially for church and prayer meeting services. The children enjoy Mrs. Smith's church hour on Wednesday night.

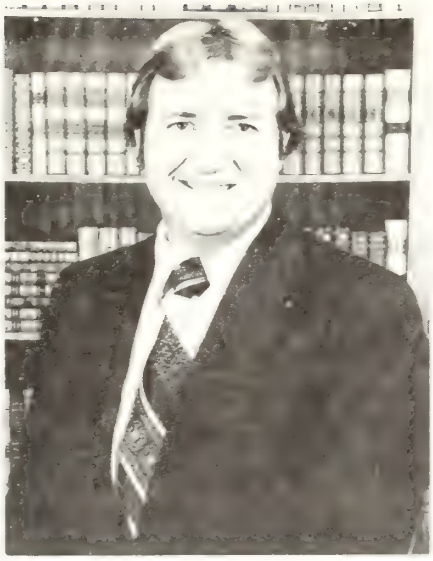
The young people and middle age look forward to the sermons Mr. Smith has prepared. The aged feel love and concern and the sick know prayers are being prayed for them. Homes and hospital visits are being made. Souls are being saved.

Revival services were held October 9 through 14 with good attendance. Christians were revived, rededicated and souls saved.

On October 15, the church members gave a covered dish supper, sponsored by the ladies auxiliary as a welcome and appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Smith.

Revival at Peace Church

Revival services will be held at the Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, November 6 through 10, at 7:30 each evening. The Rev. Scott Sowers, pastor of the Marlboro church, Farmville, will be the guest speaker. Special music is planned for these services. The pastor, the Rev. L. B. Manning, and the members, invite everyone to attend these services.



Rev. Scott Sowers

Dixie Melody Boys at Wilson



Dixie Melody Boys

The Dixie Melody Boys will be in concert at the First Free Will Baptist Church, in Wilson, on Thursday night, November 16. The service will begin at 7:30 p. m. The church is located on the corner of Granger and Barnhill Streets in Wilson.

The pastor, the Rev. Clyde W. Cox extends an invitation to all to come for this service.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. Boyd Shook announces that he is now available for pastoral or evangelistic work in Free Will Baptist churches of North Carolina. He is a member of the Western Conference and in good standing with the same. Any church desiring the services of Mr. Shook may contact him by phoning 965-3032 or by writing to him at Box 465, Selma, North Carolina 27576.

THE ABSENTEE'S ALPHABET

submitted by DeW. Eakes

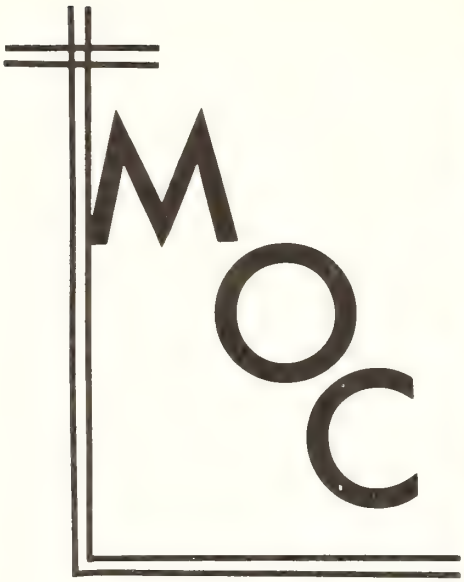
I'd like to go to church, but. . .
A is for auntie, who will come to tea.
B is for bed, which won't release me.
C is for car; we need the fresh air.
D is for dinner that Mom must prepare.
E is for enthusiasm, which I haven't got.
F is for foursome, which golfs quite a lot.
G is for the garden, much near God's heart.
H is for husband, who won't play his part.
I is for intruders, who sit in my pew.
J is for the jealousy shown by a few.
K is for knitting, which Mom likes so much.
L the old language that's so out of touch.
M is for money, and they always want more.
N is for new tunes that I've not heard before.
O is for the overtime, double on Sunday.
P is the preparing I must do for Monday.
Q for queer noises which come from the choir.
R for the rector, who ought to retire.
S is for sermons, as dull as can be.
T for the TV I really must see.
U for unfriendliness I always find.
V for the voice of the woman behind.
W for weather, too much rain or snow.
X is for extras, too busy to go.
Y for young rowdies, who sit at the back.
Z is for zeal, and that's what I lack.
—Quoted by J. D. Wadley, Crescent Avenue Church of the Nazarene, Buena Park, California

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A THOUGHT FOR THIS WEEK

Dr. Madison Sarratt, an administrator at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, from 1917-1978, once wrote on the chalkboard for his students: "Today I am going to give you two examinations, one in trigonometry and one in honesty. I hope you will pass them both. But if you must fail one, let it be trigonometry."

Somewhere in this there is a lesson to be learned by all of us.



FREE WILL BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

The semi-annual meeting of the Free Will Baptist Historical Society will be held on November 18, 1978, at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Middlesex, North Carolina. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual Thanksgiving service of the Children's Home. The program at this service will include a presentation on the founders of the Children's Home and its early development.

Following the Thanksgiving service and lunch the Society will hold its annual business session including the election of officers for the coming biennium. All Society members are urged to attend this fall meeting. As always the meetings and programs are open to anyone interested in the preservation of materials and dissemination of knowledge about the history of Free Will Baptists.

The Thanksgiving service will begin at 10:30 a. m., lunch will be served at noon, and the Historical Society meeting will follow at 1:30 p. m. Current officers of the Society are: Dr. Michael Pelt, president; Miss Leah McGlohon, vice president; Mr. Kenneth Dilda, secretary; Miss Louise Edgerton, treasurer; and the Rev. Fred Rivenbark, member-at-large. Dues are $5.

HIGH SCHOOL DAY

High School Day for Seniors
Saturday, November 11
10 a. m.
Come and Bring a Friend!

100th SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION



David Charles Hansley, Robert Haun, John Adcox, Paul Lassiter, Jessie Hartley, and W. Milton Wiggs.

The 100th Cape Fear Sunday School Convention was held at Mount Olive College recently. Officials attending included: David Charles Hansley, President of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists; Robert Haun, Sunday School Convention President from Eastover church in Fayetteville; John Adcox, Vice-President from Eastwood church in Fayetteville; Paul Lassiter, Secretary from Wooten's Chapel church in Raleigh; Jessie Hartley, Treasurer from Riverside church in Princeton; and W. Milton Wiggs, State Sunday School Convention Treasurer from Smithfield.

CHURCH RECORDS MICROFILMED AND PRESERVED IS YOUR CHURCH LISTED?

In 1972 the Historical Commission and the Executive Board of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists purchased microfilming equipment to be housed in the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection at Mount Olive College. The primary purpose of this equipment purchase was to provide a means whereby historical records of the denomination, especially individual church records, could be preserved for the future.

Other denominations have long been involved in systematic preservation of their history through this and other means. Free Will Baptists have too rich a heritage to neglect its preservation. To date only the following churches have had any or all of their records microfilmed. Is your church listed?

Beaverdam	1921-1977	Columbus County
Bethany	1919-1975	Pitt County
Black Jack	1894-1974	Pitt County
Christian Chapel	1872-1954	Lenoir County
Concord Chapel	1849-1912	Beaufort County
Core Creek	1910-1977	Craven County
Dublin Grove	1907-1960	Beaufort County
Elm Grove	1923-1969	Pitt County
Free Union	1843-1962 (1937-1944 missing)	Greene County
Gray Branch	1940-1976	Lenoir County
Grimsley	1892-1955	Greene County
Gum Swamp	1882-1969	Pitt County
Hillsberry	1963-1973	Sampson County
Johnston Union	1962-1965	Johnston County

Juniper Chapel	1909-1959	Craven County
Lee's Chapel	1892-1970	Sampson County
Little Creek	1903-1955	Greene County
Marsh Swamp	1922-1974	Wilson County
Mount Ariel	1896-1950	Horry County, South Carolina
Mount Zion	1920-1956	Pamlico County
New Haven (St. Luke's)	1922-1975	Craven County
Northeast	1928-1970	Wayne County
Oriental	1902-1975	Pamlico County
Piney Grove	1925-1941	Duplin County
Plymouth, First	1953-1966	Washington County
Rains Cross Roads	1925-1974	Johnston County
Robert's Grove	1896-1944	Sampson County
Rose of Sharon	1906-1975	Martin County
Sarecta	1873-1975	Duplin County
Sidney	1904-1973	Beaufort County
	(1946-1953 missing)	
Smith's New Home	1895-1972	Lenoir County
Spring Hill	1905-1967	Wayne County
	(1936-1938 missing)	
Tee's Chapel	1935-1975	Johnston County
West Hillsboro	1953-1971	Orange County
Whaley's Chapel	1911-1975	Jones County
Winterville	1905-1966	Pitt County

Churches are reminded that microfilming is free and in no way damages the records. Records may be brought in, filmed, and returned the same day. Prior notification to the librarian of the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection is advisable, however. Records left for filming and later picked up are protected in a fireproof vault. Inquiries should be sent to Librarian, Free Will Baptist Historical Collection, Moye Library, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Telephone 919-658-2502.

DR. RAPER IN SMITHFIELD

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at First Free Will Baptist Church in Smithfield, Sunday, November 12, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Leonard B. Woodall Jr., is pastor.

COLLEGE DINNERS SET FOR NOVEMBER

The following county dinners to benefit Mount Olive College have been scheduled in November. As College Dinners are planned the information will be listed in the Free Will Baptist.

BEAUFORT COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 7 p. m., Chocowinity High School, Oscar Webster, chairman.

CARTERET COUNTY—Saturday, November 11, 6:30 p. m., East Carteret High School, Reginald Styron and Nathan Garner, co-chairman.

PAMLICO COUNTY—Saturday November 18, 6:30 p. m., Camp Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, chairman.

PITT COUNTY—Tuesday, November 14, 7 p. m., D. H. Conley High School, Gary Bailey, chairman.

SAMPSON, HARNETT CUMBERLAND COUNTIES—Thursday, November 16, 7 p. m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, chairman.

WILSON COUNTY—Tuesday, November 21, 7 p. m., Beddingfield School, James B. Hunt Sr., chairman.

MRS. RILEY IS GUEST SPEAKER

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College, will be guest speaker for Mount Olive College Day to be held at Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Ayden on Sunday, November 12, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. Gary Bailey is pastor.

ADMISSIONS OFFICERS VISIT IN SCHOOLS

Russell W. Duncan and Dianne B. Riley, Admissions Officers at Mount Olive College, will be visiting in the following high schools.

Free Will Baptist students attending these schools are invited to come by for a visit and bring their friends.

November 6— Bowman High School in Wadesboro
November 7— Union County Schools
November 8— Olympic
South Mecklenburg
Independence High School in Charlotte
November 9— Myers Park in Charlotte
Charlotte Latin
Providence Day
Charlotte Country Day

Coming Events . . .

November—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Children's Home Month

November 8—Central Conference, Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church, near Snow Hill

November 11—High School Day for Seniors, 10 a. m. to 3 p. m. on the Mount Olive College Campus

November 12—Children's Home Day in local churches

November 15—Board of Superannuation Meeting, 11 a. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

November 15—Board of Directors of Retirement Homes Meeting, 1 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

November 18—Thanksgiving Service, 10:30 a. m., Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

November 21—Founder's Day, 11 a. m. worship service, Mount Olive College

November 23—Thanksgiving Day

November 23—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

November 23-26—Thanksgiving Holidays, Mount Olive College

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For November 19

SETTING LIFE'S PRIORITIES

Lesson Text: Exodus 20:15, 17; Luke 12:15-23; Matthew 6:25-33
Memory Verse: Luke 12:15

I. INTRODUCTION

Mine! A baby learns that word early. He is fiercely possessive when another child reaches for his teddy bear. Is a sense of ownership instinctive, built into the structure of human nature? At least we can be sure the idea of property goes far back to the infancy of the race.

Abraham had property, lots of it (Genesis 13:2). So did other people of his time (Genesis 13:5). Ownership was personal, not communal. Of course violent men did not always respect property rights. A coalition of small-time kings ganged up to raid Sodom and the nearby area, taking away both property and people. Abraham had a personal interest in that because his nephew Lot was one of the captives. Responding violently to violence, he led three hundred men into battle to recover the loot (Genesis 14).

As we look farther back in history, it seems evident that Noah owned the ark he built (Genesis 6:11-22). Considering the prevailing evil of the time, we wonder that he was able to build it. Did he have to surround it with armed guards to prevent vandalism and theft during the long period of construction?

But the idea of ownership is much older than Noah. The sacrifices of Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-7) would not be sacrifices at all unless they gave something that was their own. David recognized that principle centuries later when he said, "Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing" (2 Samuel 24:24).

Indeed, the idea of ownership is as old as Adam. God made him owner of all the fruit of Eden except that of one tree in the midst of the garden (Genesis 2:16, 17). But covetousness too is as old as Adam. He and his wife longed for the one thing that was not theirs. Therefore sin came into the world, and death through sin.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Our lesson today is concerned with the Eighth Commandment; however, in the discussions of the New Testament the Tenth Commandment is touched upon. In this study, which deals mainly with property and things of a material nature, a few points need to be stressed. First, material things are a great blessing from God. We must never forget that God is the Creator and owner of all things. All our material blessings come from Him. Second, it is not a sin to be wealthy. The sin comes in the way wealth is sometimes acquired and the attitude that one may have toward it after it is acquired. Third, we must remember that a good steward will use his material blessings in a manner that is pleasing and acceptable to God.

B. You may wonder why we started this discussion with talk about material blessings when the title of the lesson is "Setting Life's Priorities." The truth is that men put material things ahead of God more than anything else. It is greed for material things that causes most people to steal and break the Eighth Commandment, and it is greed for material things that causes people to covet and break the Tenth Commandment. Also, we must not forget that material things cause people to worry more than almost anything else.

C. As we study the Eighth Commandment we should remember that this is not the only statement in the Bible about property rights. The Eighth Commandment deals specifically with stealing, that is, with violating the right of ownership. But other passages also deal with that right and our responsibility for using our property for the glory of God.

D. The last of the Ten Commandments deals with the sin of covetousness which is different from the others in one respect. All of the others forbid acts which may be observed by others; but covetousness is a sin of the heart and may not necessarily be observed by others. Yes, the manifestations of the sin may sometimes be visible, but the sin itself is not visible to the human eye because it is within the heart of the individual.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. What comes first in your life?

B. The answer to this important question depends on your values. Some things are more important than others, and God has given each of us the right and wisdom to make proper choices from day to day.

C. Some people put pleasure ahead of everything else. Others feel that fame and prestige are the greatest essentials. Still others desire power above all other things. And some consider amassing wealth and possessions to be the highest goal in life. This latter desire, unfortunately, may actually head the list.

D. This desire is so strong in some that they will go to any ends to acquire wealth, even using questionable means, such as stealing or fraud. Behind this desire is the evil of covetousness, desiring something that belongs to another. Concern for material things beyond one's needs has long been a source of human conflict and suffering. It has led to wars on a national scale, and to stealing on a lower, personal scale.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Covetousness is Curable—There is the story of the stingy Christian who was so impressed with a sermon on world missions that he decided to give twenty dollars. As the ushers came near with the plates, he changed to fifteen, ten, five, and then one. Shaking, with his purse in his hand, the words of the sermon ringing in his heart and his selfish nature pulling him, he dumped in the whole purse saying, "Now, squirm, you skinflint. You are now a giver."

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

"A Christian Home
for Boys and Girls"

Children's Home



MIDDLESEX, NORTH CAROLINA
J. STEWART HUMPHREY, Executive Director

THURSDAY SCHOOL



Mrs. Brenda Rollins works with one of the younger groups in "Thursday School."

The religious training of our children is a serious concern of us all. We here at the Children's Home are faced with this challenge more acutely than the local church because the children that come to us have not had the opportunity to grow up in a Christian home and, more than likely, have not had the experience of a Sunday school or church. Traditional Sunday school materials and routines are quite often above their abilities.

In an effort to reach our boys and girls here at the Home, the Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church has organized "Thursday School" on our campus to complement our established religious services. Not only does "Thursday School" provide a vacation Bible school type of teaching program for our children, it also provides classes for our staff who have spiritual needs of their own. Pastor Larry Melton and the teaching staff of the Pleasant Plain church are making a significant sacrifice of time and effort in order to provide for the spiritual needs of our children.

We encourage all our people to pray for this team of dedicated Christians who are endeavoring to reveal the love of God in Jesus Christ to our staff and children.

SUMMER MAINTENANCE

Summer has been a busy time for our maintenance personnel. Mr. Donald Batchelor (St. Mary's Free Will Baptist Church, Kenly), with the capable help of Mr. Guy Casteen (houseparent, Sarecta) and Mr. Rupert Pittman (houseparent, Daniels Chapel), has been able to paint and repair the guttering all across our campus. The yards have been in excellent shape all summer.

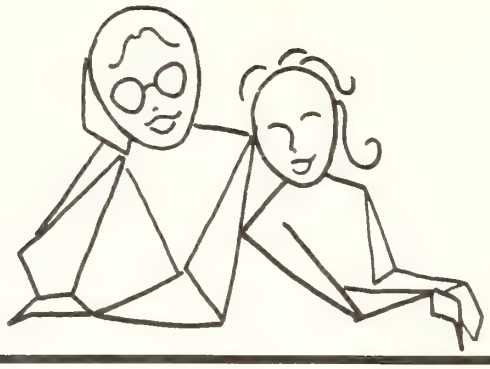
Fall brings chilly weather. The maintenance department is busy now preparing the furnaces for winter. There are several buildings on campus and the Retirement Homes for which the maintenance personnel is responsible. They also keep the grounds and assist with the maintenance of farm equipment and buildings from time to time. This summer they helped with the gardening also.

Their duties include the supervision of a number of maintenance-related work programs for the children. No matter what the role, we are all child-care workers in a real sense of the word. Our hats are off to the maintenance staff for a job well done!



TOPICS ANNOUNCED

The topics for the 1979 essays and declamations have been announced by the advisors of the State Youth Committee. They are "Youth Helping the Church Grow" (essay), and "Lord, You Light up My Life" (declamation). Rules and information regarding the contests can be found in the AFC and YFA programs books. All young people are urged to participate.



Story Corner

MOSES AND AARON SIN

IN the night on that first Passover, the Hebrews fled from beside the Nile River. Chased by the Egyptians, they turned to the south. They crossed the Red Sea and traveled on down its coast line until they were at the mountain of Sinai. This was desert wilderness. There was no way to buy food, for people did not live in the desert from whom they could buy. Water was scarce. They were led by God's cloud from oasis to oasis where they filled their water bags.

Where the distance between oases was too far, God allowed Moses and Aaron to perform miracles and bring water from huge rocks by striking the rocks with Aaron's staff.

When there was no food, God sent manna every day. It fell like rain.

As we look back upon this now, it seems to us the Hebrews should have realized how blessed they were. We cannot understand how they could become dissatisfied and complain. But they did, often.

Moses was a wonderful man. He was a patient man. When we first learned of Moses as an Egyptian prince, he was not patient. His temper was uncontrolled. But he loved the Hebrew people and was patient with them. Even when they sinned so greatly and built the golden statue, he begged God to forgive them. He was angry at what they had done, but he loved them still.

Time after time some of the people turned on Moses. But he did not stop loving them or stop praying to God to forgive them for their sins. His whole life was dedicated to bringing his people to the land where they could be happy and serve God as a nation.

We can imagine how hurt he was when they finally reached the entrance to the Land of Canaan and the people still did not have faith enough in God to believe they could capture it.

A man who was not so patient, loving, or forgiving as Moses would have thrown up his hands in disgust. He would have given up trying to help them become a great nation and would have taken his own family into Canaan to live and forget the rest.

But even then Moses did not give up. He begged God for the lives of his people. He took the punishment of wandering in the desert along with them. Often he asked God to punish him instead of the people.

Many times people turned on Moses. They blamed him when there was no food but manna. They blamed him when sickness came. They blamed him for anything which made them uncomfortable. We would think they would be grateful to him for freeing them from slavery.

There was even a time when Aaron and Miriam, Moses' own brother and sister, turned on him. The Hebrews were a close knit group. They did not marry people from other nations. But, if you remember, long ago Moses had married a woman from another country. Miriam and Aaron turned on Moses because of this. They believed it was a sin and they talked about it among the people.

God came to the defense of Moses and punished Miriam and Aaron. Moses, even then, begged God to forgive them He was a great man.

Yet, the Bible tells us Moses was no to be allowed to enter Canaan. It was punishment for his sin.

Moses was now a very old man. H was over eighty when he began to lea the Hebrews. Now he was well over on hundred years old.

After the Hebrews had been in th desert for many years, they were campe at a place called Zin. The water gave out The oasis had dried up. The Hebrew began to complain. Moses was gettin impatient with them. It would seem the would begin to have faith in God after s many years. He had always given then food when they had none. Many times H had shown them where to find water. I all these years He had not allowed then to die because of lack of food or water i the desert. But still they could not hav faith!

Moses, who had been so patient with them for so many years, was irritated Aaron, too was angry with them becaus they complained so instead of trustin God to care for their needs.

It was the same old story! The peopl came to Moses and Aaron. "We ar thirsty. Our children are thirsty. Ou flocks have no water. Why did you bring us out here to die of thirst? In Egypt we had water. We had good food, too. W had vegetables, fruit, and meat. Now we have only this tasteless manna! That is bad enough but now the wells are dry We wish we had died with the others o been swallowed up by the earth as Korah. Anything is better than this dryness!"

Again Moses and Aaron asked God to give them water. But this time thei feelings were not the same as before They were irritated with the people.

As always, God provided a way fo them to have water. He told Moses to go to a certain rock and speak to it. Wate would pour out of it.

Moses was so irritated with the untrusting people that he stormed out o the tabernacle. As he went he grabbed Aaron's staff. He and Aaron marched up to the huge rock as God had said. Bu instead of speaking to the rock as God directed, Moses turned to the people and said angrily, "You rebels, you who cannot trust God, must we bring water out of a rock for you?" Then he angrily struck the rock twice with the rod.

Water poured out and the people were

satisfied. But God was not pleased with Aaron and Moses. God gives us His blessings out of love, not anger. Moses had disobeyed God. He had not followed God's instructions.

God spoke to Moses and Aaron, "You have sinned. Performing miracles in My name is a holy thing. You did it in anger. You did not do as I told you. Yes, I sent the water, for the people are not to be punished for your anger. But because of this, neither you nor Aaron will be allowed to settle in Canaan with the people."

Moses was very sad. Because of one short time when he did not obey God, he was to have his life's dream taken from him. He was to be allowed to lead the people to Canaan, but he could not lead them into the land.

He would not lead the people into battle against the armies of Canaan. He would not see how God made these people able to defeat the mighty armies or capture the walled cities. Someone else would be in charge.

Moses would have to stay behind while the Hebrews, at long last, made their homes in the wonderful land of Canaan.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

WHY SUPPORT MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE?

(The Rev. Billy Yawn, Pastor of Everett Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, near Clayton, shares his thoughts about the part his church plays in the Johnston-Wake County dinner in support of Mount Olive College.)

Mount Olive College is supported by Everett Chapel church because it serves a definite need within the confines of a denominational ministry. It is a vital part of our spiritual well-being. Within the scope of stated objectives, Mount Olive College is producing returns equal to or greater than a high percentage of comparable colleges in any structured denomination. This knowledge motivates our support.

The method used by Everett Chapel consists of a complete membership canvass. The opportunity to give is not denied anyone. Those active and inactive are presented a brief oral resume outlining the worthiness of the college. The emphasis is upon opportunity for an education in a Christian environment. Those contacted are informed of the desired goal and requested to donate proportionally. The biblical premise "ask and ye shall receive" is our sentence slogan. Should the drive revenue be less than the assigned goal, the remainder is appropriated from the church treasury. The luxury of a failure cannot be accepted in this important matter.

The money raised by the dinners is understood to be a vital part of the college budget. The redeeming value of the drive each year is a general turning of eyes and hearts toward Mount Olive College.

THINK ABOUT IT

Riches are the least worthy gifts which God can give man, yet men toil for them day and night, and take no rest. Therefore God frequently gives riches to foolish people, to whom He gives nothing else.

—Martin Luther

Actor Robert Young, known to television viewers as "Dr. Welby," tells of kneeling with his nine-year-old daughter, Kathy to hear her prayers.

Kathy asked a blessing for everyone—her mother, her father, her sisters, the neighbors, her schoolteacher, the dogs. Then she started on her request list. That was pretty long, too. It sounded like an enthusiastic letter to Santa Claus. Suddenly there was a pause and Kathy said in a small meek voice, "And now, dear God, is there anything I can do for You?"

Could this be what Jesus meant when He said that we should all become like children—not child-ish, but child-like?

A prayer: Dear God, open my eyes this day so that I may clearly see anything I can do for You.—Elaine St. Johns

HONOR YOUR PASTOR

The Free Will Baptist is planning to feature a column dedicated to honoring a Free Will Baptist pastor each week. If you would like to honor your pastor, send a black and white glossy picture of him or his family. This photo will be returned, if you wish. It is also asked that you tell why you wish to honor him. Give information about his family, his activities in the denomination, and any of his accomplishments that have improved your church. Thank you for your concern and consideration in this matter. Let's honor your pastor today!

—Editorial Department

STUDY COURSE KENLY CHURCH

A study course, sponsored by the Western District officers, will be given at Kenly Free Will Baptist Church, November 13, at 7:30 p. m. All study course chairmen and auxiliary members are urged to attend. This study course can be credited to your local auxiliary.

NOTE OF THANKS

We are so grateful for each expression of sympathy extended to us upon the birth and death of our infant daughter, Christine Michelle, on October 20, 1978. We do not understand the ways of God, but we have been able to accept this as the will of God because of the grace and strength invoked upon us because of your many prayers. We love everyone of you and ask God's richest blessings upon you.

Doug and Virginia Skinner

Let Us Pray With You

Our readers will gladly share a prayer with you if you will only let them. God is pleased when His children pray one for another, even when we do not know the person for whom we pray.

Send us your request for prayer. Keep your request to a maximum of thirty or forty words. Below is one such request:

"I am facing a great problem at this time and I know there are others who need my prayers. Please pray for me as I pray for you." —A friend. Your name may be withheld if you desire.

Address your desire for prayer to: The Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE PRESENTS:

HIGH SCHOOL DAY FOR SENIORS

Saturday, November 11



LUNCHEON ENTERTAINMENT BY THE MOUNT OLIVE SINGERS

—PROGRAM—

10:00—Arrival and Registration
Henderson Building
10:15—Campus Tours
Refreshments
Visit with Students and Faculty
11:00—Group Meeting Concerning
Admission Procedures, Financial Aid
Career Planning, etc.
12:15—Lunch at Downtown Auditorium
Entertainment by the Mount Olive Singers
1:30—College Bookstore Open
Auditions for Placement in the Mount Olive Singers for 1979-80.

Come Find Your Place at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Bring A Busload • Bring A Friend • Parents Welcome

BLESSED IS THE CHURCH WHOSE PASTOR IS THERE WHEN HE IS NEEDED. HE WILL BE THERE BECAUSE HE IS ON CALL EVERY HOUR OF EVERY DAY. AND THAT, TOO, IS GOOD.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

Cover Photo by
Ewing Galloway

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

"On Call" Pastors Make the Best Shepherds

LET'S LOOK AT THE PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastors are among the finest people I know. I know this is true because I am one myself! I number many of them among my best friends.

Having been a pastor for over forty years, I can see both their good and not so good traits.

One not so good trait concerns the matter of the pastor's service schedule—when he should be on the job and when he might not.

But first, it has always bothered me to hear church people talk of "hiring" the preacher. I prefer to be thought of as being "called" to a pastorate rather than being "hired" as one would hire a janitor or some other worker, however important his work may be.

Now, in the second place, if he is called to a pastorate it is my honest opinion that he is **on call** twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and fifty-two weeks in the year.

Of course there is often a need for his getting away from things—like taking a vacation, or spending a weekday with his family. Even Jesus withdrew Himself apart from the multitudes, and often went to be alone with just the Father.

Being **on call** means that he is available when especially needed—such as in extreme emergencies. It may be he will have to be called home from his quiet retreat some miles from his church; and if he is sent for, he should be ready to respond accordingly. Many pastors do this all the time.

After all, he can always return to his vacation spot when the crisis is passed.

Above all, when he is away he should leave a phone number, or an address, where he can be reached in times of emergencies.

Adolph Bedsole, in his fine book, **Parson to Parson,** wrote: ". . .when a man is called of God and a congregation to serve as pastor of a church, that one church has first claim on his time." That first claim on the pastor's time may take place at three o'clock in the morning or right in the middle of his fishing trip! When the call comes it should be only a minimum of time before he is at the side of those who need him so much.

I hope my good pastor friends will agree with me on all this but before they choose not to—if they are so inclined—I ask only that they ask themselves, "What kind of schedule did Jesus have?"

THERE'S JOY IN CARING

By Emily H. Hefner

THE days in a nursing home are so exciting. To many, it would seem that they are only places of destitution, of isolating someone who is no longer loved or wanted, of sickness, insanity, and disease. But how many of you who feel this way have stopped to think, "One day, I'll be there. One day, I'll no longer be needed or wanted."

The reward of caring for the aged is so great. Such satisfaction can be obtained from the wrinkled smiles, the weary cries. And, likewise, there are days when I think, "Just one more wet bed, one more spilled cup of coffee, and I'll quit." But no, I can't. The reward of helping the helpless is much too great. Each time one of my patients does something that upsets me or irritates me, I stop a moment to think what Jesus would say.

When I'm late with medications, and someone wants an extra drink of water, I could walk on out as if I didn't hear. But Jesus said, "I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink."

If I walk by a door and see someone exposed, I could close the door and leave him. But Jesus said, "I was naked, and ye clothed me."

If I walk down the hall at mealtime and see someone lying in bed or up in a chair who is unable to feed himself, I could get busy with other things. But Jesus said, "I was hungry, and ye gave me meat."

When I admit a new patient, and the family leaves and he becomes more and more despondent, I say to him, "I love you and care for you." Then I hear Jesus say, "I was a stranger, and ye took me in."

When I take my child to see all my patients, and I see them smile at his frolics, I can hear my Jesus saying, "I was sick, and ye visited me."

And when I see my patients drooling, or laughing at sad things, or wetting their beds, or strewing their foods, I can hear Jesus saying, "Once a man, twice a child."

When I see all these things, I know I am needed, and I know I'm working right where my Jesus wants me.

When I hand some poor soul a straw and raise his head because he's lying flat and can't drink his water, and he smiles, I know I am loved.

I go by a room and see someone lying the same way he was for two hours, and I go in and turn him. Although he can't talk, he struggles to say, "Thank you."

All of these things mean so much to me for my Jesus also said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." So while I use my medical skills to treat them, I also give them my love as Jesus so freely gave me His.

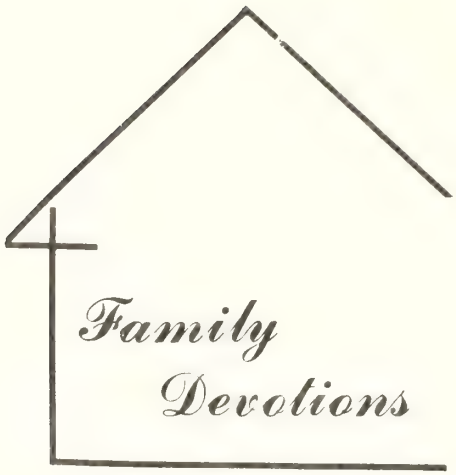
MRS. HEFNER works in a nursing home in Harnett County and is a member of Lee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Dunn, North Carolina. She feels that this article might bless someone who is in a nursing home, or who has relatives in one.

I have seen elderly and young people crippled with disease come to the nursing center and get well. I have seen others struggling every day. I have seen young and old die. But in most of the dying faces, I can almost hear the Blessed Saviour say, "Come, ye blessed of my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." And when the "uncertain" lie dying, and they cling to my hand so tightly, I can hear Jesus speak softly, "Be not afraid, I am with you." And peace floods their faces as the last breath leaves their bodies.

So you see, from all the wrinkled smiles, the weary cries, the saddened faces, and the tear-filled eyes, I can hear my patients saying, "Thank you for caring for me and loving me."

That's satisfaction!





SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—1 Timothy 3:5

WHO TOLD THE HEN?

John Brentz, a friend of Luther, and one of the stalwarts of the Reformation, incurred the hatred of Charles V who made many attempts to kill the minister. Hearing that a troop of Spanish cavalry was on the way to arrest him, he cast himself upon God in prayer. At once the guidance came: "Take a loaf of bread and go into the upper town and where thou findest a door open, enter and hide thyself under the roof." He acted accordingly, found the only open door, and hid himself in the loft. For fourteen days he lay there while the search continued. The one loaf of bread would have been insufficient but day by day, a hen came up to the garret, and laid an egg without cackling. The fifteenth day it did not come, but John Brentz heard the people in the street say, "They are gone at last," and he came out.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Do you like to play hide and seek games with God? He doesn't like that. He likes to have His children always ready to do the work for Him.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 1:21

INFINITE GAIN IN SEEMING LOSS!

"That's the place, right there," he said to me pointing to a large building, as we rode by.

"You don't mean that whole block, do you?" I asked my traveling companion, a man of sixty-odd.

"Yes, it was all mine. I began in a small way. I worked hard. I was successful. Hundreds of men were working—two shifts. Orders were piling up. I was fast becoming a rich man. Then—well, overnight I was stripped of everything. It was like turning off the only light in a room on a dark, stormy night. Everything went black as midnight. The storm was terrible—in my heart I mean." Then he paused.

"Too bad," I exclaimed.

"Too bad?" he repeated, turning to me sharply, with eyes glistening. "Say, I shall never quit thanking God for that experience."

"I don't understand," I said.

"In the terrible darkness of that hour," he explained, "I saw a great light. In the storm I heard a sweet voice. The light took form; it was the Saviour. The Saviour was speaking to me—oh, so gently. The loss awakened my sleeping soul and brought me to God!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said that He was the Way, the Truth, and the Light. No man can come to the Father any other way but by accepting Jesus as His Saviour.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—Psalm 68:11

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The world's opinion of the church may not always be correct, but it is a good thing for the church to know what that opinion is. Here is what a secular paper out in Oregon has to say about the church's appeal to the physical man:

"Behold! The lodge lodgeth together—*and they eat.* The club clubbeth together—*and they eat.* The church hath a social—*and they eat.* The Young People's Society elects officers—*and they eat.* And even when the Missionary Society meeteth together—*they eat.* But this latter is in a good cause, because they eat in remembrance of the poor heathen who have not much to eat.

"Behold! Hath man's brains gone to his stomach, and doth he no longer regard intellectual dainties that thou canst no longer call an assembly or get together a quorum or even a 'baker's dozen' except that thou hold up the baker's dainties as a bait? Be it true, that the day cometh that to get a crowd at prayer meeting, the preacher must hold up a biscuit?

"Yea, verily, thou hast heard of the child races of the world. But, behold, it is nigh thee, even at the door. For as one calleth unto the child and sayeth, 'Come hither, sweet little one, and I will give thee a stick of candy,' even so must thou say to the grown-up Papa and Mamma, 'Assemble ye together and we will serve refreshments!' And lo, they come like sheep in a pen."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus is the Bread of Life. He is food for the hungry. He brings salvation to a sinful world. He wants you to believe in Him and trust Him.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 50:4

THE ONE AND ONLY REMEDY!

"A contagious enthusiasm among Christians for the Word of God and a return in faith and obedience to its precepts would do more to point the way out of present world distress and despair than all the plans and strivings of men!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

A person can receive a great blessing by reading the Word of God. What more can he ask!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—Romans 15:5

WHAT ARE YOU HOLDING ON TO?

The Christians of "God's Invasion Army" give a whole year of their life to house-to-house soul-winning. One thing demonstrated is that the greatest asset to the work of God is a yielded life. God has called many young people to this work and answering such a call has rarely been easy, as they have ambitions. Yet there has been a response which shows that the spirit of sacrifice has not died out in the Christian youth of our day. One girl went to see the Invasion Army group which was visiting her church, and said: "As I listened to their testimonies, I wanted an unselfish life of service. I realized that to be happy in my Christian life, I must be used of the Lord. Still," she admits, "as I went home to bed, I kept thinking of job, home, friends, and the other things I

held so dear. It seemed too much to give up, but I couldn't sleep. All through the night a voice kept saying, 'They left all, and followed Jesus.' Finally I could stand it no longer. I slipped down by the side of my bed and whispered to Jesus, 'I will leave and, and follow Thee."

PRAYER THOUGHT

What greater joy than to be holding on to Jesus? He is our very dear Friend. Today we could be thankful for our friends, our families and our food and shelter. God gave us all these things to enjoy.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—Luke 11:42

INSIDE YOUR HEART

Two little Zulu boys in South Africa heard a missionary speak and one of them, when asked later by his mistress what he had heard, said: "Oh, there was a wonderful Man, and people were very unkind to Him and He died and went up to Heaven; but He came down again and was like a little child in people's hearts."

The lady asked him what he did when he heard this and, with shining face, he answered: "I opened my heart and let the little Babe Christ in;' He came in and my heart closed over Him and He is inside."

Later that little heathen boy went back to his own people and was cruelly ill-treated because of his love for Jesus. They tried every way to get the love of Christ out of his head and heart, but they could not do it. The little boy would keep saying, "He is inside, and you cannot get Him out and you must be very careful not to hurt Him."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus sees and knows what is in our hearts. We should always love Him with all our hearts. What more can we say?

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 7:7

THE MIRACLE OF OPENING

In the sixteenth chapter of Acts, we have the story of two conversions. It took an earthquake to convert the jailer, but the heart of Lydia opened like a flower to the kiss of the Son of Righteousness. All down through the centuries, the Spirit of God has been at the work of conversion. Back in third century Cyprian the Bishop of Carthage wrote to his friend Donatus: "It is a bad world, Donatus, an incredibly bad world. But I have discovered, in the midst of it, a quiet and holy people who have learned a great secret. They have found a joy which is a thousand times better than any of the pleasures of our sinful life. They are despised and persecuted, but they care not. They are masters of their souls. They have overcome the world. These people, Donatus, are Christians—and I am one of them."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We, as Christians, are supposed to carry forth the gospel of Jesus Christ no matter where we go, God wants all people to know about Him.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

Psalm 19 for the TV Age

This rewording of Psalm 19 was done by George Keck and taken from his paper, The Evangelical Beacon. To use his words, it is given "with apologies to the many wholsome and worthwhile programs presented on television.



The networks declare the glory of the Tube; and the color screens show forth their handiwork.

2 Day after day they glow continually, and night after night promote inertia.

3 There seems to be no speech nor language where the commercials do not penetrate

4 The Tube's violence is gone out through all the earth, and its immorality to the ends of the world. In them hath Satan set a design for disaster.

5 Which is as a demon coming out of hell, laughing at the deception of men.

6 His going to and fro is around the world and he uses the screen to reach multitudes. There seems no escape from the one-eyed monster

7 The law of the Tube is unrighteousness, contaminating the soul; the testimony of the Tube is false, making foolish the people.

8 The statutes of the Tube are deceptive, depressing the soul; the commandment of the Tube is "watch me," making blind the eyes

9 The fear of the Tube is continual, unsettling the mind; the judgment of the Tube is cruel, speaking lies and scorning truth

10 Less to be desired are they than chaff, yea, than many dead leaves; more nauseous also than moldy bread or rotten garbage

11 Moreover, by the Tube are the rebellious encouraged, and in watching, the time for repentance slips away

12 Who can understand the hurt that is accomplished; the Tube keeps secret the error of our ways

13 Its servants sin presumptuously, it claims dominion over their souls; they will not be made upright, nor be innocent of transgression

14 The words of the Tube and the themes of its series shows are acceptable in the sight of Satan, the destroyer and the deceiver.

Sketch by Janie Sowers

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE AND DANIELS CHAPEL CHURCH



Charles W. Pittman III

At Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, the local activities and support of Mount Olive College are charged to the Board of Christian Education and a liaison officer selected by the church. The liaison officer serves as an ex-officio member of the Christian Board of Education and submits reports to the board at various intervals. I have had the opportunity to serve in this capacity for the past four years, and am presently fulfilling the fifth year.

Like most churches, one of the big events for it and Mount Olive College is the annual fund raising dinner. The planning for this event occurs many weeks before the dinner or the drive. Being the liaison officer, I have also assumed the role of chairman for the local drive within the church. One of the first steps I take is to meet with the pastor and discuss my ideas about the drive and listen to his ideas. We then make certain decisions as to how we will proceed with the drive. For the past four years, we have used an individual contact plan and feel that it has been successful. Using this method requires a lot of manpower; therefore, we use a ten-person committee to make the contacts.

This committee, being such an important element in the drive, is selected very carefully. In selecting the members for the committee, I try to choose a good cross representation of the church with emphasis on age and sex. A careful review is made of how successful committee members have been in the past and of their present workload in other church activities. In selecting members, one of the most important requirements is a positive attitude towards the drive and its purpose. The committee is selected and a short planning session is generally held before the official county planning session conducted by a Mount Olive College official. Each member of the committee is invited to attend the official county planning session.

After my committee is selected, I take the official active membership roll of our church and list the head-of-households. These names are assigned to a committee member that I feel can best approach him or her and seek support for Mount Olive College. It is extremely important to maintain records from year to year on the succeeding or failing points of the drive. The success of the drive is totally dependent on the membership of this committee working together to accomplish the goal. Once all the individual contacts have been made, a standard summary report provided by the college is completed and given to me by each committee member.

In addition to the above, there are other causes for a total success of the drive in our church. For an example, the principal of the local high school assists us each year in encouraging high school seniors and juniors to attend the dinner. Because of this encouragement, our church has won three $100 scholarships for the most students in attendance, but most of all, these students have learned about Mount Olive College. Also, to add to our drive, we generally have a Mount Olive College Sunday, when someone from the College will come and speak to our church.

All of the above is preceeded by much prayer and followed by much thanksgiving to God for allowing our church, our pastor, the committee, and me to serve Him by assisting Mount Olive College, an institution dedicated to training young men and women for His service in the future.



TOPICS ANNOUNCED

The topics for the 1979 essays and declamations have been announced by the advisors of the State Youth Committee. They are "Youth Helping the Church Grow" (essay), and "Lord, You Light up My Life" (declamation). Rules and information regarding the contests can be found in the AFC and YFA programs books. All young people are urged to participate.

Two Churches Remember Our Children



THE CHILDREN and staff of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home were guests at a Halloween carnival on October 28. Games and events for children of all ages were enjoyed. Many of the children made and wore costumes of their favorite monster or hero. After the games and events the host church, Everett Chapel, Clayton, North Carolina, served refreshments. It was a fun-filled evening with good Christian fellowship.



ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, October 25, the YFAs and AFCs of Marsh Swamp Free Will Baptist Church at Rock Ridge, North Carolina, visited the Children's Home campus. The young people from the church served refreshments and presented each child with a special handmade gift. A time of fellowship followed.

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Thanksgiving Services will be held this coming Saturday, November 18, at 10:30 a. m. in Memorial Chapel. The service will be of special interest this year, so we hope all of you will be able to come. One of the highlights of this year's program will be historical emphasis on the first 15 years of the operation of the Home. The Historical Society will be meeting with us.

Bring a picnic lunch. Drinks and tea will be provided, as well as barbecue, slaw, and bread.

There will be campus tours during the afternoon. The oldest building, the Pump House, will be open for inspection.

The Historical Society will have an afternoon meeting in the Conference Room. We look forward to seeing all of you.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Election Day is behind us. We all voted. Yes you did! Even though you failed to make it to the poll you voted. To fail to vote casts a vote in favour of the winner, regardless of whether or not he was your man. To fail to vote against liquor by the drink will be a vote in favor of it. Voting is important.

November is Children's Home Month. We'd like you to cast your vote for us at the Children's Home. Vote for the children to whom we minister. Vote for your staff in November. We challenge you, as an individual, and your church to cast your vote for good child care by having a special Thanksgiving Day Service this month for the Home. Use our bulletin inserts in your services. Have a special time period in the service for reports from the Home and be sure to receive a generous offering for the Home, if you have not already.

The Children's Home needs your vote —your support—for our campaign to provide a "Christian Home for Boys and Girls, and it will be gratefully appreciated. Cast your vote this November for the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, Inc.

MOYE LIBRARY GIFTS

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of October, 1978, totaled $232.50 and were as follows:

In Memory of

Mr. Alton Bernard Blackman by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Warwick, Newton Grove.

Mr. Quincy Branch by Mrs. Nan L. Brown, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Mr. David Buck by Hines Memorial Class, Winterville Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville.

Mr. Norman Dail by Mr. Elmer C. Brock, Mount Olive.

Mr. William Albert Eason by Mrs. Ruth B. Warrick; and Ruth Warrick Sunday School Class, Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton.

Mrs. Evelyn P. Evans by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Mrs. Lorelle F. Martin, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Sutton, Mount Olive; Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Wilson, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Wilson, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Mabel Gibson by Mr. Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mr. Freddie Hare by Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

Mr. Owen Jackson by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; Mrs. Lorelle Martin, Mount Olive; and Mr. Nathan Reynolds, Goldsboro.

Mr. John Kornegay by Mr. and Mrs. Bryce H. Ficken, Mount Olive.

Mr. Ferne I. Lytle by Mr. and Mrs. Noah Capps, Cary.

Mrs. Alma J. Minshew by Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

Mr. James (Bunk) Olive by Mr. and Mrs. W. Milton Wiggs, Smithfield.

Mrs. Carrie Sasser by Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Hare, Pikeville.

Mrs. Glennie Sasser by Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro.

Mrs. Frankie Smith by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive.

Mr. Emmett L. Swinson by Mr. Bryce H. Ficken and Mr. Hain Ficken, Mount Olive.

Mr. Granger Tadlock by Dr. M. M. Lownes Jr., Mount Olive .

Mr. Lisker Tart by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mr. Weils Thomas by Woman's Auxiliary, Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Beulaville.

Mrs. Virgil N. Walls by Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Warwick, Newton Grove.

In Honor of

Mr. Charles H. Harrell by Dr. Hilda Owens, Columbia, South Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Y. Stephenson by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

DINNER GOAL MOVING CLOSER

Five more county dinners held in support of Mount Olive College brought the total of $47,953 raised toward the $120,000 goal set for 1978-79. There are eight dinners remaining.

Dinner totals include $5,891 for Craven County Free Will Baptists, $653 from Onslow-New Hanover Counties, $2,522 from Jones County, $3,263 from Edgecombe-Halifax Counties, and $8,751 from the Duplin County dinner.

Mount Olive College scholarships for $100 awarded to the churches making the largest contribution at the dinner included Juniper Chapel (Craven County), Snead's Ferry (Onslow-New Hanover Counties), First Tarboro church (Edgecombe-Halifax Counties), Friendship church (Jones County) and Sandy Plain (Duplin County).

Mount Olive College $100 scholarships awarded to the Free Will Baptist churches giving the most money per

DRAMA IN REAL LIFE—The Free Will Baptist Fellowship at Mount Olive College, recently presented a lighthearted drama on the importance in taking time for spiritual development. Each student on trial represented an excuse for lack of spiritual growth.

The student players are, from left, Patricia Best from Pleasant Plain church in Johnston County, as Prosecuting Attorney; Al Lamm from Little Rock church in Wilson, the Judge; Alice Hines from Winterville church as I. Del Hands; Lynn Richardson from Smyrna church in Beaufort County as narrator; Phillip Boykin from Marsh Swamp church in Wilson County as I. M. Toobuzzie; Lynette Turner from Spring Hill church near Goldsboro as Neva Listen; John Capps from Friendship church in Wake County as Defense Attorney; and Sheri Slaughter from Holly Springs church in Carteret County as Ima Hypocrite.



church member included Juniper Chapel (Craven County), Snead's Ferry (Onslow-New Hanover Counties), Dawson's Grove (Edgecombe-Halifax Counties), Friendship (Jones County) and First Warsaw (Duplin County),.

Mount Olive College $100 scholarships awarded to the churches bringing the most high school students to the dinner included a tie between Saint Mary's and Saint's Delight, (Craven County), Folkstone church (Onslow-New Hanover Counties), Peace church (Edgecombe-Halifax Counties), Whaley's Chapel (Jones County), and Sandy Plain (Duplin County).

A special recognition $100 scholarship was awarded Piney Grove church in Duplin County for bringing the largest number of church members (70) and doubling their gifts from last year.

REMAINING COLLEGE DINNERS SET FOR NOVEMBER

The remaining following county dinners to benefit Mount Olive College have been scheduled in November. As College Dinners are planned the information will be listed in the Free Will Baptist.

PAMLICO COUNTY—Saturday November 18, 6:30 p. m., Camp Vandemere, M. N. (Tom) Caroon, chairman.

SAMPSON, HARNETT, CUMBERLAND COUNTIES—Thursday, November 16, 7 p. m., Midway School, C. Felton Godwin, chairman.

WILSON COUNTY—Tuesday, November 21, 7 p. m., Beddingfield School, James B. Hunt Sr., chairman.

FOUNDERS' DAY

The public is cordially invited to attend the 26th anniversary of the chartering of Mount Olive College at the annual Founders' Day Service set for Tuesday, November 21 at 11 a. m. in Rodgers Chapel.

The Rev. David Charles Hansley, President of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists, pastor of Daniels Chapel church in Wilson and alumnus of Mount Olive College, will be the guest speaker.

MRS. RILEY AT DANIELS CHAPEL

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College, will speak at Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Wilson, Sunday, November 19, at the 11 a. m. worship service.

The Rev. D. C. Hansley is pastor.

DR. RAPER AT SHILOH

Dr. W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Olive College, will speak at Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, Sunday, November 19, at the 10 and 11 a. m. worship services.

The Rev. Marvin Waters is pastor.

ADMISSIONS TO VISIT HIGH SCHOOLS

Russell W. Duncan and Dianne B. Riley from the Admissions Office at Mount Olive College will be visiting in the following high schools.

Free Will Baptist students attending these high schools are invited to visit and bring their friends.

November 16—West Charlotte High School
Garinger High School

November 17—North Mecklenburg High School

CRAGMONT

Another camping season at Cragmont has ended, and again we say it was the best one yet. Attendance was slightly higher this year, and the spiritual blessings could not be matched.

Since our last report, there have been several more retreats at Cragmont. On September 22-24, Free Union church near Spring Hope planned a weekend at Cragmont; however, because of a death in the community, only 8 were able to come. We all had a great time anyway. On September 29—October 1, the Rev. Gary Bailey brought 52 campers from the Elm Grove church.

October 6-8 saw 30 people from the Little Rock church, Lucama, at Cragmont. This was their tenth year of holding a retreat at Cragmont. We were visited by two church groups from Wilson on October 13-15; a Sunday school class of 20 and a Scout troop of 20 from the First church, Wilson, and 15 from Milbournie church. October 20-22 saw two church groups at the camp: 10 from Sherron Acres church and 20 from the Kenly church. We are especially thankful to this group for helping in the kitchen during the weekend. Our last group of the season was 50 people from Marlboro church who spent three nights at Cragmont. They were joined for two nights by a group of 11 women brought by the Rev. Ed Miles.

We are very glad each group had a chance to come to Cragmont. They were able to see the new main building in progress which we hope will inspire them to give more to the building program. Thank you for your prayers this past year, and we hope you will continue to keep us in your prayers as this building program progresses.

In His Service,
Rev. Douglas Skinner,
Manager and Promotional Secretary

Coming Events . . .

November 18—Thanksgiving Service, 10:30 a. m., Memorial Chapel, Children's Home, Middlesex

November 21—Founder's Day, 11 a. m. worship service, Mount Olive College

November 23—Thanksgiving Day

November 23—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

November 23-26—Thanksgiving Holidays, Mount Olive College

HONOR YOUR PASTOR

The Free Will Baptist is planning to feature a column dedicated to honor a Free Will Baptist pastor each week. If you would like to honor your pastor, send a black and white glossy picture of him or his family. This photo will be returned, if you wish. It is also asked that you tell why you wish to honor him. Give information about his family, his activities in the denomination, and any of his accomplishments that have improved your church. Thank you for your concern and consideration in this matter. Let's honor your pastor today!

—Editorial Department

NEWS & NOTES

Youth Revival at Calvary

Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will hold a youth revival November 17 through November 19. Friday and Saturday services will begin at 7:30 p. m. Sunday services will be at 11 a. m. and 6 p. m.

Miss Jo Clifton, a student at Hunt High, will be speaking Friday night. Miss Pam Johnson, a student at Mount Olive College, will speak Saturday night. Craig Simmons, youth pastor from the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, will bring the Sunday morning message. David Hines, a student at Mount Olive College, will speak Sunday night. Special music will be presented Sunday night by the Sonlites.

On Sunday, November 19, Old-Fashioned Sunday will be observed at the church. Members will dress in old-fashioned garments.

The public is cordially invited to come and worship in these services.

Free Will Baptist Historical Society to Meet

The Free Will Baptist Historical Society will have its annual meeting at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Middlesex, North Carolina, on Saturday, November 18. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Children's Home annual Thanksgiving service which will begin at 10:30 a. m. in the Memorial Chapel with Dr. W. Burkette Raper delivering the main address entitled "Giving Thanks for Our Forefathers." The service will be followed by a picnic lunch on the grounds. The business meeting of the Society will be held in the Administration Building at 1:30 p. m. There will be a presentation on some aspect of the history of the Children's Home, biennial officers will be elected, and the possibility of a visit to the North Carolina Department of Archives and History for a workshop session on research sources and techniques relating to Free Will Baptist history will be discussed.

The Society's meeting at the Children's Home represents another attempt to visit, recognize, and become more familiar with Free Will Baptist institutions. Both the Children's Home service and the Society's meeting promise to be informative and broadening, so please make every effort to attend this special occasion. Dues for the membership in the Society are $5. They may be paid at the meeting or by mail to the treasurer: Miss Louise Edgerton, Route 2, Pikeville, North Carolina 27863.

Faith Mission Nursery Carpeted



New Carpet for Nursery

The Faith Free Will Baptist Mission in Leland is thankful to the children of the mission for the carpet that has been put in the nursery. The children of Faith sold soft drink bottles and raised $90 to buy the carpet for the nursery.

Supper by Whaley's Chapel Church

Whaley's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Richlands, at Hargetts Crossroads, will hold a fish stew and chili bean supper, bazaar and auction on Saturday night, November 18, 1978.

Supper will be $2 for all you can eat. The bazaar will have homemade items which make good gifts, Christmas decorations and other crafts. Supper and bazaar will begin at 5 p. m. and run until 7:30.

At 7:30 an auction will be held, items will include, pies, cakes, and other baked cookies and some home made articles.

Revival in Progress, Cape Colony Mission

Revival is in progress at the Cape Colony Free Will Baptist Mission, Edenton, through November 18. Services are beginning at 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Charles Parrish is the evangelist. The Rev. Johnny Sexton is the pastor. There is special singing nightly. Everyone is invited to attend the remainder of these services.

Revival in Progress, Core Creek Church

Revival is in progress at the Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City. The Rev. Melvin Everington is the pastor. The revival will continue through November 17. The time of the services is 7:30 p. m. The Rev. Walter Sutton is the evangelist. Everyone is invited to attend.

The church will also observe harvest day on November 18. A picnic lunch will be served.

Homecoming at Trinity Church

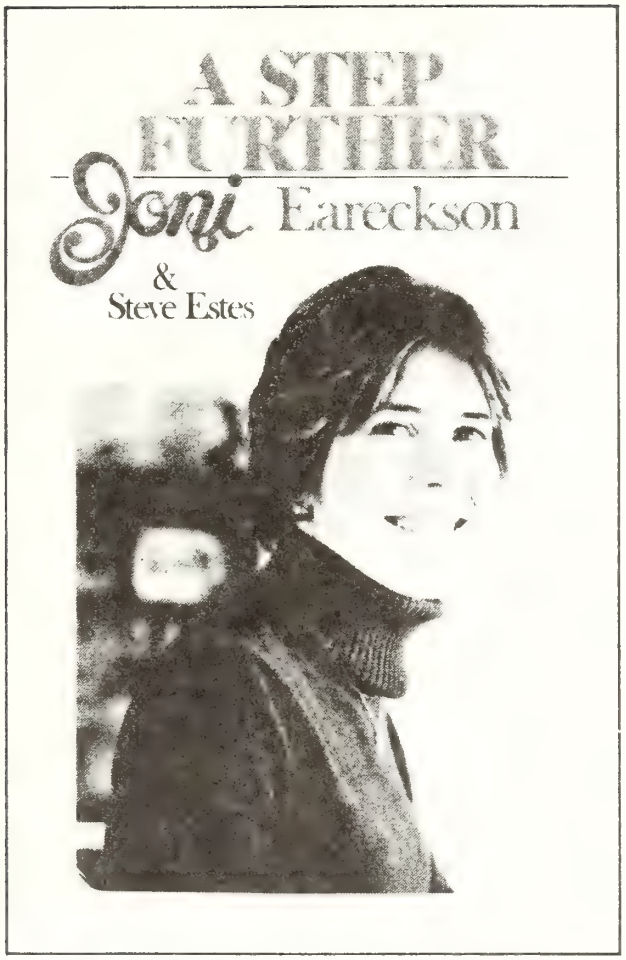
Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pantego, will observe its annual homecoming on Sunday, November 26. The day's activities will begin with Sunday school at 10 a. m. followed by worship services at 11 a. m. Bryant Hines, pastor, will bring the morning message. Special music will be provided. Lunch will be served. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend.

Pre-thanksgiving Services

Pre-thanksgiving services will be held next week at the First Free Will Baptist Church on the corner of Granger and Barnhill Streets in Wilson.

Monday night's service will feature the testimony of Miss Phyllis Hinson from Goldsboro. Miss Hinson is a former drug addict and will be sharing what Jesus has done in her life.

(Continued on Page 16)



Joni Eareckson tells more about her life as a quadriplegic. She has opened herself to God and others by attempting to answer people's questions regarding suffering by sharing. Steve Estes, presently a student at Westminister Theological Seminary, helps Joni to write.

Joni remembers as a child seeing children in wheelchairs, but never did she dream that one day she would be in the same situation. She explains how God opens His loving arms to everyone, no matter what their condition, and how He allows sickness to show us His love. It is by suffering that we are shown how to love others. She tells people to read the Bible daily, especially the Book of Psalms where tears of agony turn to tears of release; consequently, everyone must experience problems in both the soul and body as a result of sin. It is because of this sinful nature of human beings that sickness and weakness affect our bodies. Sin can very easily mold a person's character; hence, we should pray daily to God. In closing, Joni explains that suffering gets us ready for Heaven and prepares us to meet God.

Do you want to know more about Joni and her experiences? Then, clip the coupon below.

COUPON

This coupon is worth $1 toward the purchase price of, A STEP FURTHER
by Joni Eareckson and Steve Estes
(Regular price $6.95, With Coupon, $5.95)
Good through November 30, 1978
Available at the Free Will Baptist Press,
Ayden, North Carolina and its branch
stores

COUPON

WE READ IT IN THIS PAPER

25 Years Ago

"I sure do enjoy reading **The Free Will Baptist.** It is just like a visitor every Friday to my home. I read it through and then give it to my friends and neighbors to read. I just would not do without it for anything. I am renewing my subscription for another year."—Mrs. R. C. Bell, Blounts Creek, North Carolina

"There are preachers who preach so well it is a shame they must ever leave the pulpit, and who live so poorly it is a shame they should ever go into the pulpit."—The Mail Box

"Raymond T. Sasser, president and field secretary for the State Sunday School Convention, will conduct a study course in Sunday school work at Barnes Hill Church near Nashville (North Carolina) . . . Rev. L. H. Boykin is pastor."—News Notes

"Rev. Willet L. Moretz, field representative of Mount Allen (now Mount Olive) Junior College, will appear at several churches in western North Carolina in interest of the college."—News Notes

MORE NEWS NOTES

On November 19, the Rev. C. L. Patrick will assume the pastorate of Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Pitt County, North Carolina.

Mr. Patrick resigned the pastorate of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Walstonburg, North Carolina, where he has served about thirty years.

During the past two months the Rev. C. F. Bowen has served the Bethany church as interim pastor.

An encouraging news item: The voters of Dade County, Florida, seat of the east gold coast city of Greater Miami, has said an emphatic NO to both the Gay Liberation Movement and legalized gambling. These Floridians voting No want no part of either evil.

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For November 26

LOVE FULFILLS THE COMMANDMENTS

Lesson Text: Matthew 22:34-40; Leviticus 19:33, 34; Deuteronomy 6: 4:5
Memory Verse: Luke 10:27

I. INTRODUCTION

Jerusalem was seething with excitement as people gathered for the Passover Feast. From all over Palestine they came, and from foreign lands near and far. The name of Jesus was heard in almost every conversation, for His teaching and miracles had held the nation amazed for three years. The common people were eager to hear Him still (Mark 12:37), but the rulers were plotting His death (John 11:53).

Two parties were prominent in the ruling class. The leading priests were Sadducees (Acts 5:17). Since the high priest headed the Jewish government, the Sadducees were politically minded and somewhat liberal in their religious beliefs (Acts 23:8). Undoubtedly they set themselves against Jesus from the beginning of His ministry when He expelled their crooked market from the temple (John 2:13-16).

The Pharisees were the "orthodox" party, proud of their devotion to God's Word. Unfortunately they were no less devoted to their traditions. Throughout Israel most of the synagogue teachers were of this party, so they often challenged Jesus as He taught. They envied His popularity, and they were angered because He often ignored the traditions that were dear to their hearts.

Those two parties often quarreled, but they were united in their determination to destroy Jesus. They had announced that He was to be arrested (John 11:57).

Such was the situation when Jesus rode boldly into Jerusalem, surrounded by a crowd of people hailing Him as their king (Matthew 21:1-11). The rulers dared not arrest Him then. They were afraid that would start a riot (Matthew 21:46); 26:4, 5). Jesus calmly went out to Bethany for the night (Mark 11:11) and returned the next day to drive the traders out of the temple as He had done three years before (Matthew 21:12-17).

Still the rulers dared not arrest Him; but the following day they swarmed around Him as He taught in the temple. Hurling questions at Him, they tried to get Him to say something that would either turn the people against Him or get Him in trouble with the Roman government that was over them. The question in the first portion of the printed text is one such.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The lesson today is a summary and climax to all that has gone before. In giving the great commandment, Jesus put all other commandments in their proper relationship, pointing up to love of God as basic in all human relationships. The demands on the Christian conscience are clearly presented in the study of the Ten Commandments, but the capacity to live up to these demands as we respond in love to the God who comes to us in Jesus Christ.

B. A summary of the law is given in Leviticus 19, and we have the almost monotonous repetition of the solemn declaration, "I am the Lord." It is used no less than fourteen times, and it shows that He wants to impress upon His people who He is. A long time before, God had called the Hebrew people to become a nation, a nation that was to make Him and His service known to all the other peoples of the earth. At the outset, He let them know that He is the God of the earth; but for some time, they did not seem to realize it. As a result, they labored under the false pretense that Jevovah was their God and that other gods were the gods of the other peoples of the earth. It is easy, therefore, to see why God is here emphasizing over and over that He is Jehovah. A people created and called for the specific purpose of making Him and His service known to others should represent Him and the truth concerning Him to them. When they fail to do so, His name is blasphemed by that failure. For that reason, in the midst of all the activities of life there must be the perpetual remembrance of whose they are and whom they serve.

C. While pointing out the fact that He is Jehovah, God also showed them that a proper relationship with their fellowman is of extreme importance, In all their dealings with others, they are to be fair and square; there is to be no sign of revenge or grudge against another. They were to love their neighbors as themselves. To show the tremendous importance of this fact, He reminds them again that He is their God.

—The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. There are a great many beekeepers in Ireland and Wales. Every third year, each owner of bees is required to distribute some of his honey among his neighbors, because his bees have gathered their honey from the flowers in the neighboring fields.

B. We owe much to our friends and neighbors. They have added to our happiness and prosperity. Because of this, we are bound by the law of brotherly kindness to distribute our own prosperity and comfort, received through our relationship to Christ.

C. We can abide by this law of brotherly kindness if we have come to love God, through His Son Jesus Christ. As we love Him, we know that He loves us, and because we have received His love, we can love others and be kind to them.

D. As Christians, we know that the practice of Christian love is the fulfillment of the law. We did not know this while we were sinners.

E. In this concluding lesson for the quarter, we turn again to the words of Jesus, who said much about love as the fulfillment of the commandments. We will look, too, at the words of Moses as found in two of his books in the Old Testament, for he also speaks of this fulfilling love.

—The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)

Fred Baker Tells of His Flight to the Philippines

"DREAMS BECOME REALITY"

It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon on October 22, 1978. We boarded our plane at the Raleigh-Durham Airport, leaving there at 2:50 p. m. After a few moments in Richmond, Virginia, we arrived at the John F. Kennedy Airport in New York Sunday afternoon at 4:50.

Kennedy airport is quite busy on Sundays. Locating our baggage was a task but we managed to find it and get to the Pan-Am terminal. There we stayed in line for over an hour getting our luggage checked in.

We were booked on Air Manila International Flight 709. It was supposed to leave the Kennedy airport at 9:30 p.m., but things were a little late and we finally left at 10:50 p. m. At 1:30 a. m., Pacific Coast Time, we landed in San Francisco. Next we flew to Hawaii, landing at Honolulu at 5:25 Monday morning. It had been dark for eighteen hours (the longest night I have ever seen)!

Our next stop for refueling was to be Guam, but there was a storm hitting Guam so we could not leave Honolulu. What a place to be stranded! The weather was beautiful, so we decided to fill Monday with a tour of the island. It was a fun-filled day for the family.

When we returned to the Waikiki Surf Motel for a hot bath, we received word that our flight had been cleared for takeoff. We forgot about the bath and rushed to eat supper in order to get to the airport by 7:30 p. m.

There are no words to express the joy and peace which flooded our hearts as the wheels of our jet plane touched on Filipino soil. The long nights of study, the long hours at work, the sorrows, the joys, and all the miles of deputation work—all of a sudden became history. It has taken us five years to reach this place and we are more confident now than ever that this is where God had brought us and in His own timing.

"To God be the glory; great things He hath done!" Brethren, pray for us; the battle has just begun.

It was a smooth flight to Guam and then on to Manila in the Philippines. We arrived at Manila at 5:45 Wednesday morning. It had been another eighteen-hour night. Getting our baggage, we stood before the customs officials. I did not know what to say so we just smiled. We were thrilled when he waved us on through. Brother Wayne King was waiting for us outside. He certainly was a welcome sight!

We had not seen our baggage since Sunday and had not changed clothes or had a bath. We had been through two eighteen-hour nights without being able to lie down, so we were an awful looking group.

YOU HAVE WANTED to see a picture of Kelly Ann, infant daughter of our missionaries to the Philippines, Wayne and Deborah King. Now you have it; share it with your friends. And please continue to pray for continued health for this precious child.



PARTICIPATION PARTICIPATION PARTICIPATION

A YOUTH WORKSHOP

November 18, 1978, at 2 P. M.

Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Winterville, North Carolina

Theme: TURNING YFA INSIDE OUT

Something for everyone: Cherubs—a Bible story and activities; AFCs and YFAs—attend worskshop booths; sponsors—a special get-together and sharing ideas; **plus** a special guest speaker!

PARTICIPATION

PARTICIPATION

PARTICIPATION PARTICIPATION PARTICIPATION

BROTHER L.E. BALLARD IN GREAT NEED

News has reached the editorial department of the Free Will Baptist Press that the physical condition of the Rev. L. E. Ballard is most critical at this time. He has been returned to Pitt Memorial Hospital.

We appeal to his many friends and especially to the many churches he has faithfully served as pastor, to express their concern for both him and his family. You can do this through a visit or the sending of a card. In either case please do not fail to see that the family receives a gift of money, which is very much needed, according to reports from close friends.

His address is 1225 Washington Street, Greenville, North Carolina 27834.

C. F. Bowen, **Acting Editor**



story corner

THE BRASS SNAKE

BECAUSE they did not have faith in God's power to help them capture the Land of Canaan, the Hebrews were to wander about in the desert until all of these people were dead and the ones who were children were grown. Then they would be allowed to capture Canaan and settle there.

During this time, Moses disobeyed God. Because of his disobedience, not even he would be allowed to enter Canaan. God would appoint another leader to lead the armies of the Hebrews into battle.

But Moses did not turn from God because his dream of living in Canaan was taken from him. He still served God and accepted his punishment. He would still be the leader until the time came for the Hebrews to go into Canaan.

For many years they moved about in the desert. One by one the people who had been unfaithful to God died. The children grew up. As they grew they were trained to fight. When the time came for them to capture Canaan, they must be ready. They would know how to fight.

Those who grew up in the desert were not as stubborn as their parents had been. But sometimes they grew impatient and complained about the food or the lack of water. One time when they were complaining so, God sent snakes into the camp. The Hebrews were bitten and the bites burned as if the people were on fire. The snakes were poison. The people who were bitten died.

The rest of the people realized that God was punishing them, and they went to Moses and said, "Go to God. Tell Him we are sorry. Ask Him to take the snakes away."

Moses went to God to beg Him to forgive the people. God told Moses the people could be saved by their own faith. Moses was to make a brass snake which looked just like the ones which were killing them. He was to place it on a high pole. When a person was bitten, he could be cured if he had faith enough to look at the snake.

In a way God has done the same thing to us. He sent Jesus to die on the Cross. If we have faith enough to look up to Jesus and trust Him, we will not have to be punished for our sins. Our faith in Jesus saves us.

About this time God told Moses that Aaron was about to die. He was an old, old man. God wanted Aaron's son, Eleazar, to become the chief priest. Moses was told to take Aaron and Eleazar up to the top of a mountain. There Aaron would die and his son would take his place.

Moses, Aaron, and Eleazar went to the top of the mountain. Moses took the beautiful priestly robes from Aaron and put them on his son. Aaron was very proud that his son had been chosen by God to carry on his work. He died there on the top of the mountain.

Moses and Eleazar buried him there and returned to the people at the foot of the mountain. When the people learned that Aaron was dead, they mourned for him for a month.

The time was near for the Hebrews to enter Canaan. But they had wandered a long way from the border of the land. They began the journey back to the land they must capture. But God told them not to fight with the people in the lands they must pass through. Moses went ahead and talked to the rulers of these lands and made arrangements to pay for the food and water the Hebrews would use as they passed through.

Most of the rulers allowed them to pass safely. But there were a few who did not want them to go through their land. The people would have fought, but God told them they must not. They would not fight until He told them to.

Moses changed his plans and led them around these lands. One time the ruler did not give them a chance to go around. He sent his armies after them. The Hebrews did not know what to do. God had said not to fight. But these soldiers were coming after them and would destroy them all unless they fought.

God told Moses to organize the men and fight. The people of this land were called the Amorites and they were wicked. They worshiped idols and were evil people. God made the army of the Hebrews strong. They had not been in battle before as the Amorites had. But they defeated the Amorites. They killed the wicked king and his soldiers. They captured the cities and destroyed the temples of the idols.

Then they marched on toward Canaan.

They must pass through the land of Bashan. There was a wicked king in this land, too. His name was Og. When Og heard the Hebrews were on their way toward his country, he did not wait for them to come. He did not give them a chance to ask permission to pass through his land. He gathered his armies and marched out to meet them.

The Hebrews heard they were coming and some of them were afraid they could not fight again so soon and win. But God told them not to be afraid. He was still with them, and as long as He was there to help they could not lose.

Just as God had promised, the Hebrews were able to win the battle. All of the soldiers of Bashan and their king were killed.

Now they were again at the border of Canaan. They were in a country called Moab. The king of Moab had heard about the battles with the Amorites and the soldiers of Og. He was afraid of the Hebrews because they had won such

victories. He was afraid they would capture his country, also.

This king, whose name was Balak, had heard of a magician in the neighboring country of Midian. He sent a message to this man, Balaam: "A great crowd of people from Egypt have come into my country. There are too many for my army to fight. I want you to come and help me. I have heard that you are very wise and can do miracles. If you will come and bless my army, we shall be strong enough to destroy these people."

Balak called his princes to take the message and money to pay Balaam for coming to help him.

When they reached Balaam, they gave him the message of the king and showed him the money. But Balaam was not certain that he wanted to go. He said, "I do not know if the Lord would want me to go with you or not. The Hebrews are said to be His chosen people. Stay with me tonight and by morning I shall know if I should go."

During the night God appeared to Balaam in a dream and asked, "Who are these men in your house?"

Balaam answered, "They are princes from the land of Moab. They came to get me to go to help them. The Hebrews have come out of Egypt with a strong army. Balak wants me to go put a curse on them in Your name so that they will become weak and he can run them out of his country."

God said, "You must not go to help the king of Moab against the Hebrews, for I have brought them to that land. I have already blessed them and made them strong."

The next morning Balaam sent the princes back to Balak with the message, "I cannot come to help you against the Hebrews. I do my wonders in the name of the Lord. He gives me the power and He has said I must not go. He has already blessed the Hebrews. He will not let me curse them."

Balak was upset. He sent other princes and more money back to Balaam. He hoped they could persuade Balaam to come anyway. He promised great honor to Balaam if only he would come to help the people of Moab.

Balaam wanted the money. He wanted the honor which was promised him. The longer he thought about them, the more he wanted to go. Instead of sending the men away at once, he had them stay overnight again.

God again visited Balaam. He said, "Go to sleep. If the men wake you before they leave, you may go with them; but you must let me speak through you."

Balaam was too excited and eager to wait for the princes to wake. He did not go to sleep, but got up and saddled his donkey and started on his way to Moab. He took two servants with him.

Next week we shall learn what happened because Balaam did not obey God and wait—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

IN MEMORIAM
Mrs. Mae McDonald Woodard



Mrs. Mae McDonald Woodard

Mrs. M. A. (Mae McDonald) Woodard was born June 5, 1891, in Miller County, Georgia. She was next to the youngest of nine children of the late Rev. Warren Andrew and Rachel Sheffield McDonald.

She was a graduate of the Miller County High School, Colquitt, Georgia, and of State Normal College, Athens, Georgia. Her early years were spent as an elementary school teacher in South West, Georgia.

In 1912, Mrs. Woodard was married to the Rev. Marcellus A. Woodard, a Free Will Baptist minister from Greene County, North Carolina. To this union were born three children: Woodie (deceased 1958), Donald, and Rachel. In the words of the late Rev. Henry Melvin: "Together they provided a house that was a home; a home of love and happy memories; a home that was a safe refuge from the storms and vicissitudes of life; a home no matter where life's interest might lead, to which the feet of the family eagerly returned at every possible opportunity, knowing that there love, affection and understanding would be found without stint."

Being the daughter of a South West, Georgia pioneer Free Will Baptist minister, Mrs. Woodard was well prepared for life as the wife of a minister. She became a member of the Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Colquitt, Georgia, and in later years transferred her membership to the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Pitt County, North Carolina.

She loved her church and her denomination. She believed in progress and her life was dedicated to promote that in which she believed. She held various offices and gave of her time freely to the woman's auxiliary work in the denomination. In her own church, she worked with the youth and spent many years as a Sunday school teacher. As long as she was able, she sang in the church choir. It can truly be said that she used her talents for the Lord all the days of her life!

Though practically helpless for the last six years of her life, the Lord still had work for her in that she was an inspiration to all who visited her. Especially was she an inspiration to nurses attending her. They marveled that through it all, she was always able to smile. As long as she could speak, there was always a "thank you" for every little kindness.

On August 4, 1978 (around noon) in St. Augustine, Florida, as was so characteristic of her, Mrs. Woodard gave one last sweet smile to someone who will remember through the years! And in the words of the Rev. Willis Wilson, who conducted her funeral: "She was a great lady in the eyes of the Lord." She left a heritage, not of material wealth, but of something far more important—the works of a life spent in the service of our Lord!

A loving daughter,
Mrs. Rachel Gorsuch

NOVEMBER IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH!



CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE MEETS AT SMYRNA

The 124th session of the Cape Fear Conference of Free Will Baptists met November 2 with the Smyrna Free Will Baptist Church near Dunn, North Carolina. The Rev. C. Felton Godwin, moderator and pastor of Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church near Newton Grove, presided.

Principal speaker for the annual meeting was Dr. W. Burkette Raper, president of Mount Olive College. Smyrna's pastor, the Rev. W. A Martin, welcomed the assembly of delegates, ministers, and visitors.

Special recognition was given to two members of the conference. H. T. Hinson was honored for his thirty-seven years as treasurer of the conference and for attending the sessions for the past forty-nine years. Mrs. Dola Dudley of the Palmer Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Garner, North Carolina, was honored for her twenty-five years of service on the conference's mission board.

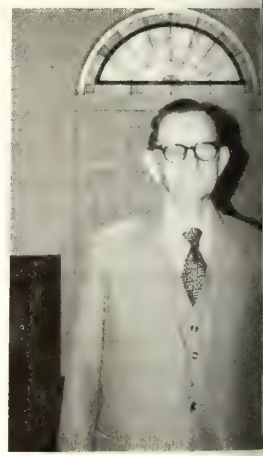
Mr. Godwin was reelected moderator and the Rev. Foy Futrelle was chosen as his assistant.

A recommendation that all mission churches' property be jointly held by the conference mission board and the local mission churches was tabled for further study.

The conference was well attended, as the picture below will show, and a spirit of harmony and fellowship prevailed throughout the one-day session. The Cape Fear Conference is one of our oldest regional bodies.

PAUSING FOR A MOMENT of worship and reflection, the conference enjoys the singing of a favorite hymn.





A MAN WHO DESERVES it, Mr. H. T. Hinson, a familiar figure in the assemblies of the conference, is shown here shortly after receiving recognition for his 37 years of service as treasurer.

NEWS NOTES

(Continued from Page 10)

The youth of the church will have charge of the Tuesday night service. This will be under the direction of the youth pastor, the Rev. Craig Simmons.

Wednesday night is church family night. This is a time when the entire church family participates in a praise service.

All services begin at 7:30 p. m. and the pastor, the Rev. Clyde W. Cox, joins with the congregation in extending an invitation to everyone to come for all these services.

Revival Services, Oak Grove Church

Oak Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Newton Grove announces its fall revival beginning on Monday night, November 20, and continuing through Friday night, November 24. The Rev. Clarence F. Bowen will be the evangelist. Services will begin at 7:30 p. m. The pastor, the Rev. C. Felton Godwin and the church membership extend a cordial invitation to everyone.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

THE MEASURE OF YOUR GRATITUDE WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE QUALITY OF YOUR DAY BY DAY PRAISE TO GOD—NOT JUST ON THIS THANKSGIVING DAY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

Cover Photo by Harold M. Lambert

Encroaching Evils about Us Demand That We

SPEAK UP BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

Have you observed with what complacency so many really good people ignore the creeping evils about us today?

They creep upon us because their approach is gradual. Then they are upon us before we know what's happened. Something we saw or heard day before yesterday bothered us—our sense of what's right was offended. But yesterday it didn't bother us quite as much.

Today it might have happened again and we were only mildly concerned and may have said, "So what?"

Take television. This news/entertainment medium reached our living rooms about thirty years ago. If what we see now on the tube were shown even ten (or five?) years ago we would have been horrified.

The same is true with our magazine racks, many of which are filled with books containing words and pictures you wouldn't believe.

All this crept upon us and we have said too little against these evils. It's time somebody spoke up. It's time we heard some daring sermons on the evils of public nudity, the commonplace use of beverage alcohol, and the smut of the paperbacks, accessible to young and old—just to mention a few.

We had better start speaking up before it is too late. Martin Niemoeller, speaking during the infamous Hitler regime, said:

> "In Germany they came first for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up becauses I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time no one was left to speak up."

A Baptist pastor in Bladenboro, North Carolina, has put it this way:

"How easy it is for us to grow apathetic about the evils around us as long as it is at the moment someone else's problem. How easy it is for us to remain silent in hopes that someone else will speak up. How easy it is for us to remain inactive because we hope someone will do the right thing for us. . ."—Quoted from the **Biblical Recorder.**

It is not enough for us to pass terse resolutions in our conferences against these evils and then go home and forget about them. Parents and pastors, as well as the rest of us, must speak out now.

Let us speak up now or we may soon have to forever hold our peace.

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NOVEMBER 22, 1978

Volume 93 Number 46

The Rev. C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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THANKSGIVING FOR WHOM?

FOR whom is this a season of Thanksgiving? For the NEGLECTED and DEPENDENT child needing stability but being moved from foster family to small group home to institution and back again? For the STATUS OFFENDER no longer living under the threat of training school but finding few alternatives offering the needed guidance and controls? For the JUVENILE DELINQUENT needing rehabilitation but finding little more than incarceration with equally needy peers? For the FRUSTRATED PARENT needing help but finding the whole system of children's services in disarray? The sad fact is that for many people 1978 will offer no occasion for Thanksgiving. What on earth is going on?

As a result of Federal legislation designed to keep non-delinquents out of jail-like settings (training schools), North Carolina enacted complying legislation forbidding sending status offenders to training schools. Who are these status offenders? They are youngsters who have come into conflict with society for running away, being truant, repeated disobedience, etc.; deeds which, for an adult, would not be a crime. Hence, the term status offender. Why is the field of children's services reacting so dramatically to this apparently commendable legislative effort? Surely, non-criminal children should be protected from the horrors exposed by the recent stream of reports from training schools! Surely these youngsters could be better served in some other setting—such as foster families, small group homes near their own home or private institutions.

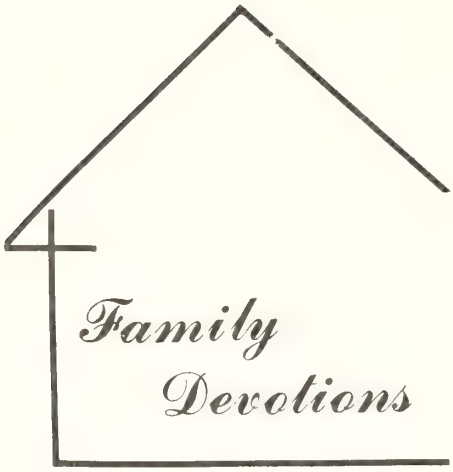
For many, if not most, of these youngsters, alternative help is possible, more effective and certainly more desirable. However, many of these children cannot—or will not—take the help offered in these alternative settings. The Director of one county Department of Social Services said recently, ". . . . one option has been removed from working with the acting out child, that option being adjust or consider the consequences of training school. Now the only option left to the child who continues to refuse to accept care and treatment is emancipation at a time much too early and when emancipation may really be the most dangerous route for the child." The end result is that some of the most needy children must now commit a crime before help (in the form of outer controls) is available. And this result is no less "bad" because it came from "good" intentions which proves once again that good intentions are not enough to solve complex problems.

During most of its history, Barium Springs served the orphan and/or the neglected and dependent child. But during the past 18 months Barium has focused exclusively on service to troubled teenagers and their families. These 18 months have been difficult times as staff attempted to learn and grow in effectively offering this different kind of help to these most needy youngsters. Much remains to be learned. However, one thing is now obvious. No agency alone can render the control, guidance, strength, and caring necessary to help many of these tragically alienated youngsters. It must rely on the support and cooperation of other public and private agencies if help is to be effected. And the current result of Federal and State legislation is that no agency—nor all agencies combined—can offer logical consequences for those youngsters who consistently transgress society's expectations. This is sad because, apart from logical consequences, a youngster is denied the opportunity to learn from experience. And the most illogical consequence imaginable for a youngster who cannot meet the expectations society holds out for him is to declare that child an adult.

FOR WHOM . . . . . THANKSGIVING?

The article above appeared in a recent issue of THE BARIUM MESSENGER published by the Barium Springs Home for Children. W. Earl Frazier, Executive Director, has captured in print the dilemma facing many young people in our time. Our Free Will Baptist Children's Home has received several children who bear the same labels as those in the article. Our experience has been no different than that of Barium Springs. It is, indeed, a tough problem. Will we give up and not try? Will we allow teenager after teenager to be emancipated—set loose in the streets alone, without any controls, without a job, without an education, or will we, along with our sister children's homes, reach out with loving arms to those children who will respond, who will cooperate, who will try to lay claim on life, and care for them. Many of them will choose freedom, as did the prodigal son, and will run this route. Some will immediately recognize that they need the care offered by a children's home. Some of the prodigals will return for help. We must be ready. It's cruel to ask teenagers to face adulthood prematurely. Our Home can and will be able to offer the cooperative teenager a second chance in life. Pastors, church members, look around your community. When you see families and teenagers having problems and needing help, tell them about our Children's Home. We are a "Christian Home for Boys and Girls" who need help.

J. Stewart Humphrey
Executive Director



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—Mark 7:3

SABBATH TRADITIONS

During the afternoon, I asked Dr. Klausner (professor in the Hebrew University in Jerusalem) if he would sign my autograph album, to which he replied, "No, I am sorry; but it is the Sabbath." I did not know until I made inquiry that night that the Talmud asserts that writing two words in succession is work, and if a man even signs his name on the Sabbath he has broken the Law. . . .As those of us gathered in his study discussed one subject after another, Dr. Klausner would climb a little stepladder and bring down some heavy tome from his shelves, open it, point to some relevant passage, then return the book and soon take down another. The Talmud says nothing about bringing down books from shelves as work—to write two words would be labor, but to develop a perspiration by reaching up for volumes and vigorously discussing them is not work! This is a perfect illustration of what our Lord meant when he talked about his contemporaries "holding the tradition of the elders" (Mark 7:3).

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said for us to remember the Lord's Day by going to church and worshiping Him. How many of us go to church each Sunday?

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:9

HIS RECOMMENDATION

The newspapers some years ago related the following incident to Stephen Girard, the Philadelphia Philanthropist. One Saturday he ordered all his clerks to come on the morrow to his wharf to help unload a newly arrived ship. One young man replied quietly: "Mr. Girard, I can't work on the Sabbath." "You know the rules." "Yes, I know, I have a mother to support, but I can't work on Sabbaths." "Well, step up to the desk, and the cashier will settle with you." For three weeks the young man could find no work; but one day a banker came to Girard to ask if he could recommend a man for cashier in a new bank. This discharged young man was at once named as a suitable person. "But," said the banker, "you discharged him." "Yes, because he would not work on Sabbaths. A man who would lose his place for Conscience' sake would make a trustworthy cashier." And he was appointed.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus wants all His children to be worthy to be called of His name. Be good and obey Him!

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:12

CIVILIZED BUT LOST!

A few years ago I was in Japan walking along a broad road which lay outside of the city of Yokohama. As I passed on my way I noticed a Japanese gentleman coming toward me, who, evidently, was of a high and modern order. He was dressed in foreign clothes—a cut-away coat, pressed trousers, highly polished shoes, immaculate linen, a well tied cravat, and a derby hat. His face was bright and very intelligent looking, giving one the idea that he had studied abroad, possibly at Oxford or Columbia University. It was my impression that he was educated beyond all heathenism, and possibly, that he was somewhat Christianized. As he came toward me, he glanced to the left and noticed a wide-open shrine standing beside the road, at the back of which was a large and repulsive looking idol. To my surprise the gentleman stopped, turned to the front of the shrine, took off his derby hat, bowed his head in worship of the idol, mumbled a few prayers, took out a piece of silver from his pocket, threw it with practiced accuracy into a basket which stood before the idol, raised his hand and took hold of a pendant rope, pulled the rope and rang the bell which advised the god that he had prayed and made his offering. Thereupon he turned and went his way.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We are to know what is right and what is wrong, that is why we have consciences. Jesus loves His children and stands by them. Do you love Him?

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:8

HOW CHRISTIANS DIES

An evangelist, seriously sick, sent for the Roman Catholic priest to visit him immediately. A friendship had grown up between the Methodist evangelist and the priest. The priest, thinking he wanted the last rites of the Catholic church, hurried to his bedside. To his surprise, he was greeted by him with, "I'm glad you came. I only wanted you to see how a Christian goes Home to his reward!" With a smile on his calm features, the evangelist passed out of life. Said the priest, "I would give anything I had to die like that. I often fear to close my eyes, not knowing where I shall open them."

PRAYER THOUGHT

A Christian should never fear death because he is going to be with Jesus. He has prepared a place for us.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:6

SEQUEL TO SALVATION SPURNED

From her own dying bed an aged woman said to me, very solemnly, "Pastor, I am afraid that my husband sold himself to the devil forty years ago," And then she told me one of the saddest stories I have ever heard. She said that at that time he was very much moved about his own soul. His pastor and many others came to see him and begged him to give himself to Christ and accept Him as his Saviour. She herself pleaded and prayed with him. But he was a member of the state legislature, and he said to her one night, "Wife, I have a scheme to carry through the legislature. It would not do for me to carry that scheme through if I were a Christian

man. I am going to see it through, and then I will repent and accept Christ as Saviour." He carried the scheme through but, as she said to me, from that day he had never apparently had any desire to be a child of God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said for a little child to suffer and come unto Him. What is more precious than a child of God?

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:16

PERISHED IN SIGHT OF HOME!

In the other years, the Government gave plots of ground to settlers who would go and settle upon the land, cultivating it and building a home thereon. A pioneering couple, just married, were among some early settlers in the far north-west. How happy they were! One afternoon, the husband went to a nearby "trading post" for provisions. During the hours of the afternoon, a terrible snowstorm blanketed the whole countryside. Darkness settled down. During the hours of that long night, the wife waved a lantern in the door of their humble cottage, hoping that by its light her lover would find his way safely home. With the coming of the day, searchers set out. Just a short distance from the cottage, they stumbled over the snow-covered lifeless body of the young husband! He had perished within sight of home. Alas, many, "not far from the kingdom" perish eternally, being without God and without hope!

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of us stand before God? How many of us attend revival services afraid to step forward?

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:13

WHY PEOPLE ARE NOT SAVED

A mother attended a service in a large and crowded auditorium accompanied by her little daughter Mary. In some manner Mary became separated from her mother. The mother sent a notice to the platform which was read: "If there is a little girl named Mary Moore, in the audience, who is lost, will she please raise her hand so that her mother can find her." No little girl lifted her hand, so Mary's mother had the police searching the city for her child. Not finding her, the mother came back and stood at the door of the auditorium as the people filed out. Among the last of them came Mary. Her mother seized her in her arms crying, "Where were you, Mary?" "On the front seat," replied the little one. "Didn't you hear the notice read, 'If there is a little girl named Mary Moore in the audience who is lost, will she please raise her hand so that her mother can find her?' " "Yes," said Mary, "I heard it read." "Why didn't you raise your hand then?" asked her mother. "Why, Mother, it couldn't have meant me," said Mary, "For I wasn't lost. I knew where I was." Jesus came to call sinners to repentance because they are saying, "I'm not a sinner, I'm not lost."

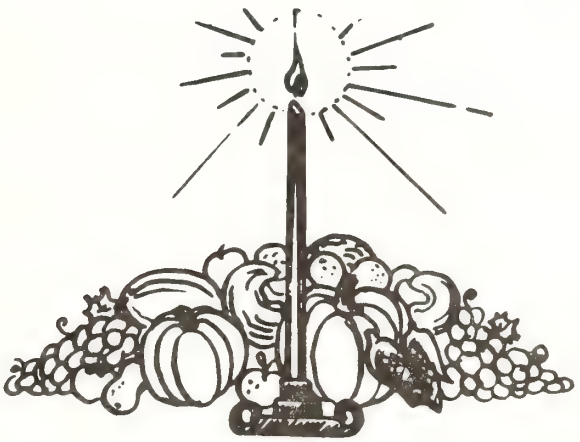
PRAYER THOUGHT

Remember the story of the shepherd looking for his lost sheep! Doesn't Jesus look for His lost persons? Yes, He loves all people of the world. They are so precious in His sight.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

THANKSGIVING

by Mrs. Luther Tugwell



The leaves are falling,
The doves are calling,
And the world is a beautiful blue.
Thanksgiving is coming,
Everyone is humming,
I am thankful, are you?

The frost on the fields are white
The sun glitters on them like gold,
The wild deer, appear unpredictably,
It's a joyous time for young and old.

Thank God for our First Thanksgiving Day
When the pilgrims landed on Plymouth rock—
Although their misfortunes were many,
Their blessings, they never forgot.

So count your blessings, on this day,
Thank Him for all good things,
That have come your way.
And always seek Him in prayer.
He will answer and show you He cares!

"I can hear the crunch of acorns and dry leaves"

by Mrs. Eldon Brock



Mrs. Brock lives in Kinston, North Carolina, and she writes that here are some thoughts which "came to me as I was walking through the woods recently. If you like, you may share my thoughts with our readers." Thank you, Mrs. Brock; we will share them.

Give me the simple things of nature like flowers and woods of maple, dogwood, cedar, and pine.

This would mean more than all the splendor and riches of a king.

Let me have the woods where I can walk for miles down some old trail to see where it ends.

In the spring I want to sit on an old dead stump and watch the squirrels and birds. As I look around and observe sprouts coming up it represents to me the dying and rising up again.

In the summer I like to see the green branches overhead, as they meet forming an arch giving shade and coolness below. Yet, here and there is a window of blue where I can look through and think of the endlessness of space.

Now it is autumn and I like to walk in the woods where the smell is tangy and I can hear the crunch of acorns and dry leaves.

To walk quietly in the woods is an escape from the rush of living, a place where I can harvest my peace of mind.

As winter draws near and I see the trees stripped of their leaves, it's like seeing the very backbone of life.

To be able to feel the wind and see the woods fill up with snow is like watching a deep sleep fall upon nature but knowing there is the miracle of new life soon to come.

Let me come away from the woods refreshed in body, mind, and spirit, having left all my worries behind as the wind catches them and loses them among the trees.

I want to look up and let my soul climb up to Heaven to commune with God and to thank Him for His wonderful creation.

Yes, give me the simple things of nature and I'll give back a person at peace with God and man.

This Pastor Says Honesty "Stills Prevails"

Following are two experiences a pastor in Angier, North Carolina, had recently which convinced him that good old-fashioned honesty is not dead.

A few weeks ago his wife left her billfold on the car after putting gasoline into it. An hour after returning home, the police department called to say that a teenager jogging had found her billfold. The pastor went to see the youngster and gave him a reward when he learned that the boy had not checked for its money content but only a name inside.

The second incident came when he was in a grocery supermarket line and a man returned to the cashier and handed her a $10 bill. He said it had been folded under another and he'd been given too much change. The cashier was so happy she almost kissed him!

"Regardless of how long the world stands, or how corrupt it might become, I believe that honesty will never completely die," the pastor commented after the two events.

—From the **Biblical Recorder**

THINK ABOUT IT

You can't explain some things to some people. Those you can explain them to don't need the explanation.

A church launched by faith

FREE SPIRIT MISSION DEDICATED

Here is an account of the dedication of one of our mission churches as reported by the Rev. Taylor Hill, director of Home Missions and Church Extension Department.



Free Spirit mission church



NEW PULPIT furniture being presented by the Daniels Chapel Men's Fellowship. At left is Director Taylor Hill; center, Dale Albertson; right, Charles Maddrey, a member of the Daniels Chapel church.



Free Spirit congregation—Pastor Albertson at right

On December 12, 1974, the Rev. Taylor Hill received a telephone call from the Rev. Floyd Cherry who at that time was pastor of Daniels Chapel Free Will Baptist Church near Wilson, North Carolina. Mr. Cherry stated that Dale Albertson and his wife, Jasmine, members of Mr. Cherry's church, had become interested in starting a new church; in fact, Dale had already purchased a mobile unit and launched out on faith.

Mr. Cherry expressed great concern for the young couple's new adventure and asked Home Missions and Church Extension for assistance. Dale and Jasmine welcomed the assistance and have worked hard to deserve it.

On October 26, 1978, they dedicated their new building with a large number visiting from areas as far away as Jacksonville.

As some of you know, we asked for help in purchasing a heating system for Free Spirit church. The cost of this is $3,700 and by November 6 we had received $2,455.51 designated for that purpose. We want to thank everyone who has stood by our Home Missions and Church Extension work.

Churches represented at the dedication were: Sneads Ferry, Providence Baptist, Holly Ridge, Daniels Chapel, St. Mary's, Kenly, Fremont, Living Waters, Little Rock, Oak Dale, Peace, Whaley's Chapel, Haymount Mission, Sandy Plain, Tarboro, Wilson, Unity, and Fellowship.

Please continue to pray for missions.

THANKSGIVING

by Vallie Coats

What have you to be thankful for
as Thanksgiving Day draws near?
When all around there's much despair
and a world that's filled with fear.

And it seems the things we're searching for
so often bring us naught,
So why not seek for things on earth
of which our Master taught?

May we thank thee Lord, for the many things
our eyes so seldom see,
The bounteous blessings each day brings,
and the love and care from Thee.

Let our hearts be thankful for each new day
'tho it be sunshine or rain;
We're thankful for loved ones, family, and friends
and a day that has no pain.

But most of all we thank Thee,
that we were bought with a price,
When the precious Lamb on Calvary's tree
made Himself our sacrifice.

For this is truly the answer
for a world that's filled with dismay,
As we lift our voices to him in praise
on this Thanksgiving Day.



Scoutmaster Tells about Scouting at the

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME



AFTER HAVING HEADING 'em up and pulling 'em out, Scoutmaster Charles Warren, center, brings his Troup 399 back to home base. Here we see him and members of the troop unpack after an exciting weekend of camping. The scout at the far right seems to "have had it," but we know everyone had a great time and enjoyed the fun—and work.

Scouting, with its high ideals and rich tradition, is no stranger to any of us. However, it is a newcomer to our campus.

Since our troop, Troop 399, chartered by the Evening Optomist Club in Wilson, North Carolina, was formed in September, we have been meeting each Monday evening at 7 on our campus. Each of our meetings is a combination of scoutcraft and good clean fun.

Our activities to date include an overnight camping trip on our farm, a weekend camping trip at Cragmont, a visit to the haunted house in Rocky Mount, and a weekend at Camp Charles for the 1978 East Carolina Council District Camporee.

During the Camporee at Camp Charles, our boys were given an opportunity to meet with and compete against other area boy scout troops. Once over the initial apprehension, Troop 399 surprised even themselves and did remarkably well, winning a yellow ribbon for overall scoring. Points were awarded for achievements in a variety of events as well as troop inspection. Our scouts were penalized because we had no uniforms, making it impossible for us to win a blue ribbon.

The uniform gives the scout identity with the world brotherhood of scouting. By wearing the uniform, scouts can give strength and courage to each other by standing together for some things that are right. That's what the uniform really means—that we are bound together by our beliefs.

Uniforms are normally purchased by the boy's parents. However, the boys in Troop 399 need your help in acquiring their uniforms.

If you believe in scouting and the scout law which reads, "A scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, Reverent" and you would like to be a friend of scouting, then be a friend of Troop 399 and help us to obtain uniforms. Perhaps your son no longer has any use for his uniform or perhaps you would rather make a monetary contribution. Send whatever you can to: Boy Scout Uniforms, c/o Free Will Baptist Children's Home, P. O. Box 249, Middlesex, North Carolina 27557 and remember, "today's scouts are tomorrow's leaders."

Charles Warren
Scout Master
Troop 399

OUR APOLOGY

We would like to express our apology to the Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church for giving credit to Pleasant Plain Free Will Baptist Church for our Thursday School.

Again, we would like to express our appreciation to the pastor, Rev. Larry Melton, and to the people of Pleasant Hill church for their dedication to this new endeavor in sharing the Scripture with our children at the Children's Home.

OCTOBER RELIGIOUS CONTRIBUTIONS
TOTAL: $10,831.06

ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE

Gum Neck	$ 50.00
Malachi's Chapel	25.00
Mount Tabor	106.94
Piney Grove	25.00
Sidney	39.97
Total	$ 246.91

BLUE RIDGE CONFERENCE

Cedar Hill	$ 13.17
Total	$ 13.17

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE

Goldsboro, First	$ 10.00
Hopewell	97.27
Johnston Union	21.00
Lee's Chapel	315.10
Palmer Memorial	344.02
Pleasant Grove	200.00
Saint Mary's Grove	25.00
Shady Grove	131.00
Yelverton Grove	100.00
Total	$1,243.39

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Aspen Grove	$ 213.00
Ayden	55.00
Black Jack	25.00
Cedar Grove	75.00
Community	35.00
Daniels Chapel	15.00
Edgewood	105.00
Elm Grove	100.00
Free Union	214.40
Friendship	51.60
Greenville, First	10.00
King's Cross Roads	55.00
Little Creek	165.00
Otter's Creek	154.35
Owen's Chapel	34.29
Reedy Branch	55.00
Rocky Mount, First	42.00
Rose Hill	100.00
Saratoga	200.00
Spring Branch	515.00
Sweet Gum Grove	225.00
Tarboro, First	375.00
Winterville	271.95
Williamston, First	219.20
Total	$3,310.79

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Antioch	$ 300.00
Bethlehem	10.00
Bridgeton	50.00
Core Creek	97.98
Core Point	15.00
Dublin Grove	10.00
Free Union	25.00
Kinston, First	20.00
Lanier's Chapel	30.00
Mount Olive	140.62
Mount Zion (Onslow)	50.00
New Bethlehem	131.25
New Haven	76.92
Reunion Chapel	15.00
Rock of Zion	64.51
Saints Delight	90.50
Sandy Plain	680.43
Smyrna	75.00
Sound View	400.00
Spring Hope	100.00
Vanceboro, First	42.05
Welcome Home	250.00
Third Union	20.00
Auxiliary District Fund	146.30
Total	$ 2,840.56

PEE DEE ASSOCIATION

Little Bethel	$ 28.83
Oak Grove	95.00
Thomasboro	200.00
Conference	75.17
Total	$ 399.00

PIEDMONT CONFERENCE

Baptist Road Cathedral	$ 20.00
Hopewell	40.00
Total	$ 60.00

ROCK FISH ASSOCIATION

Conference	$ 15.00
Total	$ 15.00

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Barnes Hill	$ 525.00
Branch Chapel	342.86
Everett Chapel	72.26
Flood's Chapel	75.00
Fremont	120.00
Kenly	60.00
Living Waters	100.00
Marsh Swamp	80.00
Milbournie	125.00
Mount Zion (Wilson)	50.00
Youth Fellowship	25.00
First District Sunday School Convention	25.00
New Sandy Hill	75.00
People's Chapel	25.00
Pine Level	150.00
Piney Grove	125.00
Pleasant Grove	5.00
Pleasant Plain	125.00
Rosebud	305.00
Saint Mary's	39.62
Sherron Acres	150.00
Trinity	5.00
Union Chapel	32.50
Union Grove	5.00
Unity (Durham)	25.00
Total	$2,667.24

OTHER STATES

Bim Ladies Aid	$ 10.00
Boone County Youth (West Virginia)	25.00
Total	$ 35.00

OCTOBER MEMORIAL GIFTS
TOTAL: $175

GIVEN BY:	IN MEMORY OF:
Mother-Daughter Beauty Shop	Mr. Greg Stone
S. A. Pittman	Mr. John Ed Pope
S. A. Pittman	Mr. James Blackman
Dublin Grove Auxiliary	Mrs. Josephine Hudnell
Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Martin	Mrs. Lela Gross

HONORARIUM GIFTS
TOTAL: $50

GIVEN BY:	IN HONOR OF:
Mrs. Margaret Davis	The Rev. and Mrs. N. Bruce Barrow

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Only eight more days are left in the month of November. Thanksgiving Day is tomorrow. As you gather around your table we sincerely hope you will pause and give thanks to God for His faithfulness to our Children's Home this past year. Our Lord has so wonderfully met our needs thus far. Our income for the last several months has indicated that our people are praying and giving in order that the needs of our children can be met. As we provide for the needy child we give "as unto the Lord."

All of us at the Children's Home would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a happy Thanksgiving Day.

During the last eight days of November prayerfully send your Thanksgiving offering to the Children's Home that God may be glorified and our children can have all their needs supplied.

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Mount Olive, North Carolina

HIGH SCHOOL DAY AT COLLEGE



ANN DAIL, LEFT, MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE STUDENT from Grimsley church in Greene County, conducts a campus tour for the Rev. Marvin Waters, second from left; and Miss Cathy Moss, center; and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Moss; all of Pinetown and Shiloh church. Miss Moss is a senior at Bath High School. Mr. Waters is a 1973 Mount Olive College graduate and pastor of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church. About 150 senior high school students and their families attended the annual fall High School Day for Seniors on the Mount Olive College campus recently.

UPCOMING EVENTS COLUMN

Tuesday, December 5—

Handel's Messiah presented by the Mount Olive College Concert Chorus. Programs at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. in Rodger's Chapel. Public invited.

Friday, December 15—

Mount Olive College students break for Christmas vacation. Residence Halls reopen Monday, January 8.

MOC STUDENT OF THE WEEK

("Student of the Week" is a feature made available by the MOUNT OLIVE TRIBUNE and run in cooperation with the Mount Olive College News Service, reprinted in the FREE WILL BAPTIST to feature Free Will Baptist students.)

Lynette Turner of Goldsboro is Mount Olive College Student of the Week.

Lynette, who celebrated her nineteenth birthday, November 1, graduated from Goldsboro Christian School in May. She is now a freshman at Mount Olive majoring in accounting.

"I decided to enter accounting because I've always enjoyed math," she said.

Aside from her studies, Lynette is a member of the New Creations, a Christian singing group of college students. She is also active in the Free Will Baptist Fellowship, Baptist Student Union, and a member of the Academic Honors Program.

Lynette participates in the work-study program offered at Mount Olive, serving as a secretary in the development office.

Remarking about her most rewarding experiences so far, Lynette said, "I've really enjoyed traveling with the New Creations. It's so interesting to see the different ways people respond to a group of singing young people."

Lynette is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Turner of Goldsboro. She is a member of Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church, where she sings in a quartet and in the choir.

ADMISSIONS OFFICERS IN HIGH SCHOOLS

Russell W. Duncan, Director of Admissions, and Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College will visit in the following high schools.

November 27—Seventy-First Senior High School (Fayetteville)
Douglas Byrd Senior High (Fayetteville)

November 28—Reid Ross Senior High (Fayetteville)
Pine Forest Senior High (Fayetteville)

November 29—Terry Sanford High School (Fayetteville)
E. E. Smith High School (Fayetteville)
Roberson County Schools

November 30—South View Senior High (Fayetteville)
Cape Fear Senior High (Fayetteville)

December 1— Westover Senior High (Fayetteville)

Free Will Baptist students attending these schools are invited to visit and bring their friends.

Handel's Messiah
to be presented by the
Mount Olive College Chorus
under the direction of
Mrs. Irene Patten
Tuesday, December 5th
in Rodgers' Chapel
11 a. m. and 8 p. m.
Public is cordially invited





Our Oldest Conference Meets

HULL ROAD WAS HOST TO CENTRAL CONFERENCE

The Central Conference, oldest regional Free Will Baptist body in North Carolina, met with Hull Road Free Will Baptist church near Snow Hill, November 8, in its 230th annual session.

Attendance of ministers and delegates was conservatively estimated at 150.



AT LUNCH TIME ministers and delegates enjoy an hour of fellowship. In the forefront, left to right, are the Rev. Jack Mayo, pastor of Ormondsville church; the Rev. Royce Reynolds, pastor of Spring Branch church (both members of the ordaining council); and the Rev. C. L. Patrick, new pastor of Bethany church and now assistant moderator of the Central Conference.

The Rev. Leon Grubbs, pastor of the host church, delivered the conference sermon.

An important report of the ordaining council included a motion to publish in **The Free Will Baptist** "an article reminding all ministers that if they desire to serve as pastor in the Central Conference they must receive clearance from the ordaining council before accepting the pastorate."

The report also listed Joe Hudson, Bryant Hines, David Hines, Ray Shepherd, Charles H. Locher, Frank Robbins, and Clarence Harris as licensed ministers enrolled. Ordained ministers added since the last conference were: T. C. Farmer, Ray Williamson, Ronnie Hobgood, Cedric D. Pierce Jr., and Curtis Jones. These came either by letter or through the ordination process.

Among the new officers elected were: moderator, the Rev. Willis Wilson; assistant moderator, the Rev. C. L. Patrick; and clerk, the Rev. Leon Grubbs.

Coming Events . . .



November 23—Thanksgiving Day

November 23—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

November 23-26—Thanksgiving Holidays, Mount Olive College

December—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

December 4—Revision Committee will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Ayden, at 10 a. m.

December 15—Fall Semester Ends, Mount Olive College

December 15—Annual Christmas Program and Party, 6 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

December 16—Christmas Holidays, Mount Olive College

December 25—Christmas Day

December 25, 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. James Warren of Kinston announces that he is available for a full-time church. He can be reached by calling 527-1648. He is also free to come and hold services on any given Sunday that he may be called. He is a member and in good standing with the Eastern Conference. His address is the Rev. James Warren, 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

The Rev. Boyd Shook announces that he is now available for pastoral or evangelistic work in Free Will Baptist churches of North Carolina. He is a member of the Western Conference and in good standing with the same. Any church desiring the services of Mr. Shook may contact him by phoning 965-3032 or by writing to him at Box 465, Selma, North Carolina 27576.

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For December 3

THE DIVINE QUEST

Lesson Text: Genesis 12:1-3; Hebrews 1:1, 2; Luke 15:4-10
Memory Verse: John 3:16, 17

I. INTRODUCTION

A boy built a little toy boat. He spent many hours shaping it and painting it just the way he wanted it. Then he took it out to a nearby stream to try it out. He was delighted when he saw how beautifully it sailed, but then it got caught in a current and was swiftly carried downstream. The boy ran rapidly along the bank to catch it, but it was soon swept out of sight. He sought diligently for the boat, but he could not find it. Then some time later he happened to be passing a shop. There on a shelf was his little boat. When he inquired about it, the shop owner told him that somebody had brought it in and sold it to him, and now the little boat was for sale. The boy hurried home and got the necessary money and went back and purchased the boat. Then as he carried it home he said, "Little boat, you're mine twice; once because I made you and once because I bought you back."

In a sense, this resembles God's relationship to us. We were His originally because He made us, but then we were swept away by the currents of sin. But God, by sending His Son into the world, purchased us back. So now we belong to God, first of all, because He made us, but also because He purchased us with His Son.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELPS

A. The general topic for this entire quarter is "Basic Christian Beliefs." First, we have a unit of five lessons entitled, "God Makes Himself Known to Us." This lesson today is the first of these five lessons.

B. The topic for this specific lesson today is "The Divine Quest." This lesson deals with the fact that God is seeking out men to trust and live for Him. In this seeking, God shows His great love and concern for us. We will look at three passages of Scripture which show how God seeks for man: one from the Old Testament and two from the New Testament.

C. Some people seem to have the idea that God created the world and then left it to operate independent of Himself. They say that when God created the world, He gave physical laws which we call laws of nature, and that the world operates today on these laws without any participation or interference from God. This makes the whole system of God's creation mechanical. It means that man lives in a fatalistic world over which neither God nor man has any control. None of us would want to accept this theory of the universe.

D. We believe that God created the world as well as the laws of nature and that the world does operate in accord with these laws. However, God has not left the world alone to operate independent of Himself. He is still active in the operation of this world. Furthermore, because of God's great love and concern for man, He sometimes operates above the laws of nature. Let me illustrate what I mean. According to the laws of nature those who have cancer usually die a slow painful death, but there have been instances where God interceded and cured the person. If God could create the laws of nature in the beginning, He can certainly suspend their operation in any specific case and work independently.

E. In the three passages which we study today, we will see God manifesting Himself to man in three different ways. In the passage from Genesis, we will see that He manifests Himself as He covenants with Abraham and his posterity so that He can bless the world. In the passage from Hebrews, we will see that His final and greatest self-manifestation is through Jesus Christ who came to show forth God's love and to die that men might be saved. In the passage from Luke, we will see an example of how God seeks for men to bless and help them. Let's take a closer look at each of these passages.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. The lessons for this quarter are divided into three units. The first unit of five studies covers the first advent of Christ (His birth), His incarnation, and related topics taken from both the Old and New Testaments.

B. We should always be aware that God is constantly reaching out to us, to help us, to show His infinite love for us, and let us know that there is never a moment when we are not in His loving thoughts. These truths should always comfort the troubled child of God.

C. This lesson will show how God reached out to Abraham, to help him become the father of the nation of Israel; God reached out to Israel in the very beginning of its national life. The lesson also reveals how God reaches out to us. It shows that He wants us to know that He is near in every circumstance, assisting us in our walk through this life.

D. The last part of the lesson gives two of Jesus' many illustrations of God's everlasting concern and love for His people; these are the familiar parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin. These show that our Heavenly Father is deeply concerned with us and continues to act in human affairs.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

God Controls—Benjamin Franklin said, "I have lived a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see that God governs in the affairs of men."

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**



"CAN WE BE JUST THANKFUL"

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

Can we be just thankful at this season, when we hear many people say, "I'm just so thankful?" We should be more than just thankful, we should be thankful to the One that gives us these blessings. We should never become doubtful and let the following thoughts enter into our minds.

I know that I should be thankful for my food and clothing—but I have to labor so hard in this life to get them.

I know that I should be thankful for my country—but it takes at least one-third of my income to keep it going.

I know that I should be thankful for my family—but they never seem to listen to anything I say and never have time to do anything for me.

I know that I should be thankful for my church—but they are all just a bunch of hypocrites and want to run the church their way.

I know that I should be thankful for my health—but I do have this arthritis and it hurts me a lot.

I know that I should be thankful for my life—but the young half of it is already past and all I have to look forward to is old age.

I know that I should be thankful for my pastor—but he is always stepping on my toes when he preaches.

I know that I should be thankful for salvation—but then some church members do things that I would never do.

I know that I should be thankful for the blessings God gives me—but He blesses those that are not church members.

But in the past men have given thanks when situations were not exactly ideal. The Pilgrims gave thanks after a very hard year. Paul gave thanks while he was in prison. Even Jesus gave thanks when He was facing the death of the Cross. The Bible says for us to give thanks in everything.

Then why should we be anxious for so much and thankful for so little. Maybe it would be good for us to rephrase the list of things that we have to be thankful for.

Oh Lord let me be thankful for my food and clothing—and for the work that permits me to have these things for my family.

Let me be thankful for my country—and for the taxes that help me appreciate the fact that freedom is not free.

Let me be thankful for my family—because they have really taught me some lessons in patience, tolerance, and love.

Let me be thankful for my church—and for its true members that inspire me to be sincere and true on the way to Heaven where pretenders will never enter.

Let me be thankful for my health—and all the aches and pains that I have in my body that cause me to stop and consider the real meaning of life and death and eternity with Christ.

Let me be thankful for my life—and whatsoever the last half may bring. I believe the best is yet to come, as God leads me around the pits of blunder into which I have fallen, as He draws me into closer fellowship with Him as the day approaches.

Let me be thankful for my pastor—and for the many hours that he spends in prayer that we should not go astray.

Let me be thankful for my salvation—help me to pray for those that seem to be so weak in the faith.

Let me be thankful for all the blessings of God—and help me to realize that it's not because I deserve them.

"He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD" (Psalm 40:2, 3).

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, . . ." (Psalm 92:1).

NEWS NOTES

Micro Church Has Appreciation Day

The Micro Free Will Baptist Church, Micro, held a special appreciation day on November 12 to honor its church members 65 years and older. Special pews were designated and the entire morning worship hour was dedicated to them. Little Miss Connie Pate sang, "I've Got Joy Like a River in My Soul." Mr. John Finnell sang a solo, "One Day at a Time." He expressed to the members his own appreciation as to what their lives had meant to him since he was a child. The church choir sang, "I Am Standing on the Solid Rock." Other old hymns were used by the congregation.

The pastor, the Rev. Roland C. Cherry, gave an inspiring message on "Dedication and the Victory of Christian Living." He used the Scripture taken from Matthew 5:6.

Two beautiful bronze mums were placed on the altar by the Woman's Auxiliary in love and appreciation to the honorees for their spiritual guidance and dedication to the service of their church, and our Lord these past many years. A beautiful fall arrangement was placed in the vestibule by Mrs. Effie Davis.

Immediately following the morning worship hour the twenty members were hosted to dinner as guests of the church at Jim's Restaurant. Those attending were: Pearl P. Edgerton, Martha Stephen, Elver Hinnant, Katie Crumpler, Gertrude and Lester Brown, Flora Davis, Stella Davis, Eva Batten, Alice Creech, Walter and Carolyn Holland, Effie Davis, Norma Smith, Irene and Worth Bagley, Jasper and Geraldine Brown, Rachel Warren, and Grace Parnell. There were seven who were unable to attend.

The senior members were accompanied by other members of the congregation, along with the pastor, the Rev. Roland C. Cherry and his wife, Motie. Mrs. Cherry acted as coordinator and mistress of ceremonies for the lunch hour.

Executive Committee of State SS Convention to Meet

The Executive Committee of the State Sunday School Convention will meet at the Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Route 3, Ayden, on Monday, November 27, at 7:30 p. m. All members are urged to attend. The Rev. Marvin Waters is secretary of the convention.

Otter's Creek Church, Gospel Sing

A gospel sing will be held at Otter's Creek Free Will Baptist Church, near Macclesfield, on Saturday, November 25, at 7:30 p. m. The featured singers will be the "Watchmen" of Fremont. Everyone who enjoys good gospel singing is invited.





Story Corner

THE TALKING DONKEY

LAST week we learned that the Hebrews were camped in the land of Moab. The king of that country, Balak, was afraid of them. He knew they were stronger than his armies and thought they would destroy him and capture his land.

He sent for a man named Balaam in the land of Midian. Balaam was a man of God. He had been allowed to perform miracles in the name of the Lord. Balak had heard of this. He knew that only a miracle could save his people from the army of the Hebrews. He did not know that the Hebrews did not want his land. They wanted only to camp there for a while until God told them to move on into Canaan.

God first told Balaam not to go to Balak. He had blessed the Hebrews and would not allow Balaam to curse them for Balak.

Balak sent back to tell Balaam he would give him much money and great honor if only he would come. Balaam wanted the money and the honor. He asked God again if he might go. God told him that he could return with the men if he would be careful and speak only the words He told him to say.

Balaam was too excited to wait for the men to waken. He saddled his donkey and took two servants with him. They started out for the land of Moab.

They had to pass through some rocky mountains. On this road, through the narrow passes of the mountains, a strange thing happened to Balaam.

Balaam was riding along on his donkey along the road when suddenly the donkey balked. It would not go another step. Balaam was angry. He beat the donkey until it went on. But Balaam did not know why the donkey had stopped.

God, being very displeased with Balaam for not waiting for the other men, sent an angel down. The angel was standing in the road. He had a huge sword in his hand. The donkey could see it but Balaam could not. When Balaam beat the donkey, it went off into the field beside the road until they passed the angel.

A little farther down the road, the angel again appeared in the road. The donkey stopped again. This time the donkey crowded along the side of the road to try to pass the angel. He crowded too close to a high rock and crushed Balaam's foot against the rock.

This made Balaam very angry. He could not understand why his donkey was acting so strangely. He had always been a good beast before. But he was certainly acting strangely now. Balaam again beat the donkey.

Farther on down the road they came to a narrow place between two rocks. The donkey saw the angel with the sword again. This time there was no way to go around. The donkey folded up his legs and sank to the ground beneath Balaam.

When the donkey refused to move, Balaam became angrier and angrier. He took his staff and began to beat the poor donkey harder than ever.

God gave the donkey a voice. The startled Balaam heard his donkey speak, "What have I done to you to cause you to beat me three times?"

Balaam could not believe his ears. Was his donkey really talking? This had never been heard of before. He answered, "If I had a sword I would kill you for the way you have been acting. You balk and run away from the road when there is nothing to fear!"

The donkey asked, "Have I not served you faithfully for many years?"

Balaam answered, "Yes." Just then he looked up, and he too, could see the angel standing in the road with the sword. Now Balaam was more afraid than the donkey had been. He fell on his face before the angel.

The angel asked Balaam, "Why have you been beating your donkey? Three times he saved you. For if he had not turned away at the sight of me, I would have killed you. God is not pleased with you."

Balaam cried out to God, "I have sinned. If You still do not want me to go on to see Balak, I will turn around and return home."

But God told him, "Go on, but remember to listen to my words and say only the things I tell you to speak."

Balak heard that Balaam was on his way, and he rushed out to meet him. "Why did you take so long to come?" he asked. "I will make you a rich and great man if you will help me against the Hebrews."

Balaam wanted the king to be pleased with him, but he remembered the words of God. He said to the king, "I cannot promise to help you. I came as you asked, but I must speak the words God tells me."

Balak did not know God. He was one of the ones who worshiped idols, which could not speak. He did not believe Balaam's God actually spoke to him. He thought that Balaam was saying this just to get him to offer him more money. So he brought out the money he was going to give to Balaam.

Balaam looked at it. It was a lot of money. He would be a rich man. He wanted very much to please the king. But he knew that he could not speak against the Hebrews. He thought that if he had a little time to think he could come up with a plan which would please Balak and still not anger God. He promised Balak to see what he could do.

Balak took him up to the top of a mountain. Here they could look down and see the camp of the Hebrews.

Balaam told the king to build seven altars and sacrifice an ox and a sheep to the Lord on each of the altars. He thought this would please God.

The altars were built and the sacrifices were made just as Balaam said. But when he turned aside to listen for the Lord to talk to him he heard only, "The Hebrews are My people. I have blessed them."

Balaam could only tell Balak what he had heard. This did not please Balak. He thought Balaam was still holding out for more money.

"You are of no help to me! You only bless my enemies."

"I am sorry," said Balaam. "But I do not dare say the things you want to hear if they are not the words I hear from the Lord."

Balak thought he would try one more time. They went to another place. Again they built the seven altars and sacrificed the sheep and oxen. Still God spoke the same words to Balaam.

They tried again at another place. Again the same words. By this time Balak was angry with Balaam. "I would have made you a rich man if you would only say a few words against the Hebrews. But you will not. You pretend that some god will not let you. Get out of here. Go back to your home. I am very angry with you for I find you are not my friend."

Balaam was sorry to think of all the money he would not get. He thought of another plan. "Since God will not allow me to curse the Hebrews for you, perhaps I can help you in another way. Why do you have to fight with the Hebrews? Why can you not be friends with them. Let them live here in peace and they will not destroy you."

The king was pleased with this plan. This is what he would do.

Balaam was pleased, for now he would be paid by the king and yet he had not spoken against the Hebrews.

So Balak went to the camp of the Hebrews and made friends with them. He told them to live peacefully in the land of Moab as long as they liked.

For awhile everything was fine. But soon the young people of the Hebrews began to notice the young people of Moab. They loved them and married them.

They began to worship the idols of Moab just to please them. This did not please God. He sent a plague of sickness into the camp of the Hebrews.

These young people who had worshiped the idols were sick and died.

God told Moses that war was the only answer. The Hebrews must fight against Moab. Moab must be defeated and the temples of the idols destroyed. The Hebrews could not live among people who worshiped idols.

Balaam was one of the ones killed in the war that came. If he had not thought so much of becoming rich and famous and paid more attention to doing as God said, he could have lived.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

WE READ IT IN THIS PAPER

24 Years Ago

"Construction of the main church auditorium of the Sherron Acres Church, Durham, North Carolina, has begun and is scheduled to be occupied sometime in April . . . The Rev. Fred A. Rivenbark is pastor."—News Notes

"The Rev. J. Randall Bennett, pastor of Bridgeton, North Carolina, Church and former superintendent of the Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Middlesex, died Sunday, January 17 at his residence, following a long illness . . ."—News Notes

"Once I knew a Baptist
Who had a pious look.
He had been totally immersed,
Except his pocketbook.
He'd put a nickel in the plate,
And then with might and main,
He'd sing, 'When we asunder part,
It gives me inward pain.' "—From **The Australian Baptist**, in News Notes

"The Rev. R. B. Spencer, 67, died at his home in Ayden, North Carolina. . .January 25 . . . In 1936 he was elected . . . editor of **The Free Will Baptist**, a position he held until 1953."—Editorial

"Last call for Cragmont! Please get on board! More funds are needed for repairs for our buildings, and we still are in need of that auditorium."—Mrs. L. E. Ballard

For an Ideal Christmas Gift
Consider
Joyce Proctor Beaman's books

Broken Acres
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All Three Now in Second Printing
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1978
Wilson Bible and Bookstore
Wilson, North Carolina

Auxiliaries in Action

NORTH CAROLINA FWB WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION TREASURER'S REPORT, END OF SECOND QUARTER, OCTOBER 1, 1978

Balance in Bank, July 31, 1978			$ 3,636.97
Receipts			
General Fund:			
Contributions	$ 6.00		
Life Award Fees	35.00		
Promotional (CSF)	135.72	$ 176.72	
Denominational Enterprises		16,908.50	
Total Receipts			17,085.22
Total for which to Account			20,722.19
Disbursements			
Convention Expenses and Allocations		246.12	
Denominational Enterprises		16,908.50	
Total Disbursed			17,154.62
Balance in Bank, October, 31, 1978			$ 3,567.57
Banks			
Branch Banking and Trust Company (checking)			$ 567.57
Church Finance Association			3,000.00
Total			$3,567.57

Denominational Enterprise Report

	Itemized	Received	Disbursed
Church Extension (Home Missions)		$ 1,278.72	$ 1,278.72
Foreign Missions:			
Designated:			
Mexico	$ 325.00		
Baker	377.00	702.00	$ 702.00
State Project (Equally divided among Missionary wives)		3,418.04	3,418.04
Central Conference Missions		120.00	120.00
Mount Olive College:			
General Fund	37.25		
Alice Lupton Scholarship	103.00		
J. C. Griffin Scholarship	5.00		
Books	10.00		
State Project	1,178.36	1,333.61	1,333.61
Free Will Baptist Children's Home:			
General Fund	25.00		
Clothing	615.00		
Allowance	10.00		
Child Support	180.00		
State Project	1,087.75	1,917.75	1,917.75
Superannuation		260.00	260.00
Cragmont Assembly:			
Building Fund		6,108.53	6,108.53
Retirement Homes, Inc.		361.49	361.49
Anna Phillips Loan Fund		46.89	46.89
Life Membership Fees (Cragmont)		140.00	140.00
Christian Service Fund (*):			
Missions	271.43		
Mount Olive College	271.43		
Children's Home	203.58		
Cragmont	203.59		
Superannuation	135.72		
Retirement Homes	135.72	1,221.47	1,221.47
Totals		$16,908.50	$16,908.50

(*) 10 percent retained for promotional (See receipts $135.72).

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Raymond T. Sasser , Treasurer



F85 Fwl

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

"WE HAVE REMEMBERED THE PAST 150 YEARS WITH APPRECIATION; WE HAVE AFFIRMED OUR PRESENT WITH GRATITUDE"

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1978. AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

CHURCH OF THE MONTH

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Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church

Pinetown, North Carolina
Marvin Waters, Pastor

Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

Cover Photo by
the Rev. Marvin Waters

We Are Not Quite There Yet

WE WANT TO REACH ALL OF YOU

This conversation actually took place between a church member and me.

I asked, "I guess you saw in **The Free Will Baptist** that—"

"The free wheel what?"

"**The Free Will Baptist**, our weekly denominational paper."

"Oh, you mean the **Baptist**."

"No, a Baptist is a person, like John the Baptist, or you."

"Well, anyway, I didn't see it, whatever it was; I don't take the **Baptist** (!) anymore. I let my subscription run out years ago."

At that point our conversation also ran out.

Now why would any Free Will Baptist not want our paper to come into his home? He must have reasons, and we would like to know what they are.

Ever since I became a Free Will Baptist, forty-six years ago, our paper has come into my home. Some Free Will Baptists have been receiving it for over fifty years. I haven't always liked everything in it, anymore than you do now, perhaps, but I can't recall a time when I let my subscription expire intentionally.

Our paper keeps me informed on what's going on among other churches, denominational institutions, the mission fields—and what other individuals are doing in their churches. Its inspirational messages—most of them, at least—bring to me a weekly enrichment.

And this is important: welcoming it into my home gives me a satisfying feeling that I am being loyal to my denomination.

Another thing: now that I have seen (since working as acting editor) the hard work the editorial and makeup departments put into the publishing of this paper, I would feel like an ingrate if I canceled it.

According to reliable information, only about one-third of our Free Will Baptist families in North Carolina receive the paper. Is yours one of them? Doing a bit of figuring myself, I would say that if an average family would have four to five members, and considering the number of Free Will Baptists in our state, and including the many Free Will Baptists in other states who take paper, our subscription roll should be about 10,000, more or less.

We are not quite there yet. We've got a few more miles to go. But you can help us reach that number by renewing your subscription or sending your first one in.

Do this: If you don't take the paper, or if you do, and you have suggestions for making it better, let us have them—we will do our best to use them.

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NOVEMBER 29, 1978
Volume 93 Number 47

The Rev. C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

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Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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CHURCH OF THE MONTH

SHILOH FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Route 1, Pinetown, North Carolina
Marvin R. Waters, Pastor

Prepared by:
Hugh and Mary Ann Harris,
and Bill Gaylord

AMONG the oldest known Free Will Baptist Churches in North Carolina is Shiloh, located about one mile from Pinetown, North Carolina. The oldest records available tell us that the first agreement to build a church was on September 18, 1828. The building was agreed to be forty feet long and twenty feet wide and was to be constructed in the field of Thomas Boyd. The building was referred to as a meeting house. The first actual deed for the property was dated, September 24, 1828, by Thomas Boyd and wife Patsy. The building was given the name Shiloh in 1849.

The minutes of the church began in a very romantic period of our American history. It was the year that the Civil War ended and the period of reconstruction began. An old era was bowing out to make room for a new era, as a group of people began a new age of Christian worship in the name of Christ and under the title of Free Will Baptists. The minutes show us the first item of business was to constitute a Free Will Baptist Church near Pinetown by the name of Shiloh. The Shiloh Meeting House became the Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church on October 7, 1865. Elder Malachi Linton presided over a business session in which the church agreed to become a Free Will Baptist congregation. Elder Linton was named pastor, with Edward S. Waters as the clerk. Spencer Kelley was named deacon, Everette Waters and John B. Stubbs as elders, and Guilford H. Waters was named treasurer. It was at this same business session that the church agreed to send one dollar and fifty cents to the General Conference at May's Chapel in Pitt County.

The first ledger shows that the church membership was fifty . . . and noted in the margin . . . four members were excommunicated. The first quarterly meeting was held February 13, 1866. There is an interesting note in the records of the quarterly meeting on July 1866, which states that a motion was made and carried that "the members shall not be allowed to talk about each other, only on . . . (words are not clear but seem to be) . . . the benches of the church."

In 1878, Elder S. W. Boyd was appointed pastor and served until 1887. Then Elder Linton was again appointed as pastor. The first ordaining of a minister took place in October 1884, when James D. Boyd was ordained. The first record of a license to preach was in the year 1878, and was granted to Samuel W. Boyd.

In 1885 the first mention of a Sunday school at Shiloh is found in the minutes. The church appointed a committee and gave it the name: "The Committee of The Free Will Baptist Sunday School." In April of the same year, two men and two women were appointed Sunday school teachers.

In 1886 comes the first mention of repairing the building. The minutes relate that fees were paid by the members for repairs. In 1910 a twelve foot wide addition was added to the church.

In 1918 the church took membership with the Albemarle Union Meeting, where it has remained to date. In 1921 the first "Ladies Aid" was formed. During the year 1925, with Duffy Toler serving as pastor, the "Ladies Aid" did some remodeling of the inside of the building. (Note how quickly this organization began making worthwhile contributions to its parent body.) Carbide lights were installed in 1928. Shiloh, being a member of the Central Conference at this time, began to make preparation to host the Conference. It was undoubtedly a much-looked-forward-to event as this was the first time the Conference convened at Shiloh.

In 1952 the first plans were conceived of, and placed in the minutes for the building of a new church. The first work on the new church started in the fall of 1954. The work went on with vigor and was completed to the point that a service was held in the new building in early 1955. In this same year, the pastor's salary was raised to fifty dollars per week. In 1955 the budget for the year was set at $1,200. In 1956, the first Lord's Acre project was begun at Shiloh. In the same year an additional plot of land was purchased by the church.

In 1959 the church represented at the Central Conference for the last time, and asked for a letter of transfer to the Albemarle Conference. In 1960 the church erected the glass covered indentification board on the lawn. In 1966 the final payment was made on the church's first organ. In 1967 the church voted to sponsor its first Boy Scout troop. Between 1970 and 1972 with the Rev. Billy Jordan as pastor the church purchased a new piano and air-conditioned the church in special projects.

In July 1973 the Rev. Marvin R. Waters, was called to serve as pastor of the church. The following year, 1974, the church rejoiced over a number of great victories that had been long awaited. That year marked the beginning of full-time services at Shiloh church. At the same time the church voted to proceed immediately with the installation of a baptistry and baptistry scene of the River Jordan. A riding mover was purchased and the YFA raised enough funds to purchase an activity bus for the church. In August of 1974 during a regular business session, a half-acre tract of property was given to the church by Mr. Hugh Harris on which to build a church parsonage. Just ten months later the parsonage was completed just in time for our pastor and his new bride (the former Peggy Ann Stocks) to move in. We all rejoiced that we were able to do so much in our first year of full-time work. We give praise to our great Lord for His numerous blessings upon us. Within sixteen months, on Harvest Day, October 1976, the church had been blessed in such marvelous ways that the parsonage indebtedness was completely paid off. Shortly thereafter the church celebrated the occasion with a note-burning service. The beautiful 1,800 square feet home was paid for!

The next month, November 1976, a building committee was formed once again for the purpose of studying plans for a new educational-fellowship hall. Again the church was involved in a building program.

The new 35' by 100' building was dedicated on our next

(Turn the Page)

Harvest and Homecoming Day, October 1977. This new building contains four new Sunday school rooms, a pastor's study, and a large fefllowship hall. With the connecting breezeway, the new addition adds approximately 3,800 square feet of space to the present facility. Again we were indebted with gratitude to Mr. Gene Foreman for building the new addition at such a comparatively low cost.

Shiloh has given four sons to the ministry. They are the Revs. James D. Boyd, Samuel W. Boyd, Ralph Osborne, and Dallas Pinkham. Serving the church as pastor have been the following:

Malachi Linton 1865-1878
S. W. Boyd 1879-1887
James D. Boyd 1889-1890; 1906-1907
M. W. Ange 1891-1895; 1900-1902; 1904-1906
M. W. Gurkin 1896-1896
M. G. Davenport 1897-1900
J. T. Butler 1902-1903
E. D. Hathaway 1907-1908
C. J. Harris 1909; 1927-1928
W. V. Denton 1910
Whitford Waters 1911
M. C. Prescott 1912-1913
D. W. Alexander 1914
D. A. Windham 1915-1918
J. T. Bunday 1919-1920
E. J. Phillips 1921
Lloyd Jones 1922-1924
Duffy Toler 1925; 1933-1945
J. R. Bennett 1926
W. L. Jernigan 1929-1930
W. A. Dail 1931-1932
A. C. Austin 1946-1947
N. D. Beaman 1948-1952
P. C. Wiggs 1953-1954
Ralph Osborne 1955-1957
Dan Gaskins 1958-1960
John Grimsley 1961-1964
Horace Medlin 1964-1965
Adrian Grubbs 1965-1966
Joe Barrow 1966-1967
Bill Gaylord 1967-1970
Billy R. Jordan 1970-1972
Fred Bates 1972-1973
Marvin R. Waters 1973 to present

Yes, we too are proud of our heritage. From fifty we have grown to 243 members. From services once a month to ''services each week''; from times when it looked like our labors were in vain to what we now believe is an exciting fellowship. For 150 years we have praised the name of our great Lord. We shall continue to worship Him who is the Lord of the church. Our present pastor, Marvin Waters, sums it up in these words: ''We have remembered our past 150 years with appreciation; we have affirmed our present with gratitude; we march into the future with the prayer expressed in the unforgettable words of that immortal hymn 'Lead On, O King Eternal!' ''

We ask your prayers that we might always be the kind of church that our Lord would have us be.

For an Ideal Christmas Gift
Consider
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Bloom Where You Are Planted **All for the Love of Cassie**

and

Broken Acres

All Three Now in Second Printing
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1978

Kinston Bible and Bookstore

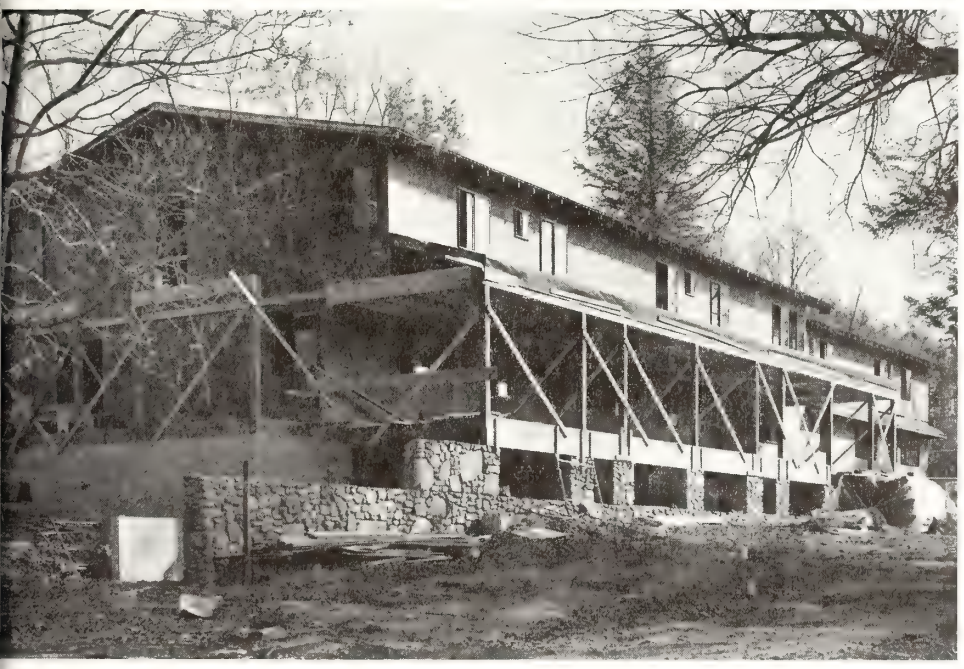
123 North Queen Street
Kinston, North Carolina

More Building Progress at

CRAGMONT ASSEMBLY



The Rev. Gary Bailey, Cragmont Assembly board member, reports continued progress in the building program. At left you see the assembly room being erected in the back of the main building. Things are really looking up, thanks to all of you.



is is an excellent shot of the front of the main building showing the progress ing made on the porch. Compare these pictures with those in the November 8 ue of The Free Will Baptist.

NEWS NOTES

WA of Stancil's Chapel Visit Rest Home

On November 11, the Woman's Auxiliary of Stancil's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Kenly, sponsored a benevolence visit to the Smithfield Rest Home. Auxiliary women, husbands, and other church participants entertained the residents with a choral presentation. A devotion was led by the pastor, the Rev. J. B. Godwin. Refreshments were also served. After the service and visit, church participants met for a fellowship dinner at Big Jim's Restaurant.

Layman's League, Central Conference, Singspiration

The Layman's League Fellowship of the Central Conference will be having a two-night singspiration. The first night will be at the Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Walstonburg, at 7:30 on December 1. The second night will be at the Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Highway 264, southwest of Greenville, at 7:30 on December 2. The scheduled programs are as follows:

December 1, 1978

Welcome by the Central Conference League President, Paul Beaman
Congregation, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms," Page 96
Devotions, Raeford Heath
Program, Master of Ceremonies, Raeford Heath
The Bethany Singers, Bethany church
Spring Branch Singers, Spring Branch church
The Clark Family, Free Union church
Miss Terri Ham, Bethel church
Grimsley Youth Singers, Grimsley church
The Messengers, Winterville church
Congregation, "Standing on the Promises," Page 23
Offering for Home Missions
Greg Shackleford and Jerry Smith, Free Union church
Friendship Singers, Friendship church
Mrs. Ann Dixon, Free Union church
Psalms Quartet, Greenville Area
Benediction

December 2, 1978

Welcome by Central Conference League President, Paul Beaman
Congregation, "All Hail the Power," Page 4
Devotions, R. J. Boswell
Program, Master of Ceremonies, R. J. Boswell
Tarboro Men's Quartet, Tarboro church
Gospeliers, Tarboro church
First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville
Ormondsville Singers, Ormondsville church
The Gospel Chargers, Winterville church
Congregation, "He Keeps Me Singing," Page 111
Offering for Home Missions
Macon Page and Barbara Wilson, Rose Hill church
Reedy Branch Quartet, Reedy Branch church
Piney Grove Singers, Piney Grove church
Melody Makers, Black Jack church
Benediction

District Layman's League, Bethany Church

There will be a district Layman's League meeting at the Bethany Free Will Baptist Church, 903 west of Winterville, on Monday night, December 4, at 8 p. m. They would like to have 100 men to attend.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME



THE PLEASANT HILL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH near Greenville, North Carolina, recently visited the Home, bringing numerous gifts and an offering of $300, a project started by the Adult Sunday School Class. Here you see the large group of adults and young people with their pastor, the Rev. Robert Rollins (at far right). This was an opportunity for this group to see how the Children's Home operates. The Home invites your church to do the same.



THE SINCERE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS of Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church near Goldsboro, North Carolina, paid a visit to the Children's Home on Sunday, November 12. The class members presented the children with a ping pong table and game accessories. The ping pong table was placed in the campus recreation center. After a tour of the grounds and buildings, the class served refreshments to everyone. The administration deeply appreciates what these (and other) churches are doing.

BOWEN IS INTERIM PASTOR AT SHADY GROVE

The Rev. C. F. Bowen will become interim pastor at Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Sampson County, North Carolina, beginning December 3. He will serve the church until a new pastor is secured.

Former pastor, the Rev. Cedric D. Pierce Jr., preached his final sermon Sunday, November 26, and will begin his pastorate at Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church, Pitt County, December 3.

This is Mr. Pierce's second pastorate at Black Jack church and he brings to this fine congregation a broader pastoral experience.

Mr. Bowen served Shady Grove church as its first full-time pastor from September, 1959 through December, 1962.

Board of Directors Meet



LEFT TO RIGHT, seated: Mrs. Rebecca Davenport, Mrs. Carolyn Eakes, the Rev. Curtis Jones; standing: Robert Bell, A. G. Glover Jr., Billy W. Dilday, Reginald Styron, the Rev. J. Stewart Humphrey, the Rev. Walter Sutton Jr., and Charles Warren. Members not pictured: the Rev. M. E. Cox, the Rev. J. Billy Hardee, and Charles Sullivan.

The Board of Directors of the Children's Home met in regular session on November 15, 1978, at the Children's Home. New members of the Board for the next three years are Rebecca Davenport, Robert Bell, and Charles Warren. Mrs. Davenport has served previously on the Board and is from the Reedy Branch church in the Central Conference near Winterville. Mr. Bell is a former warehouseman from the Aspen Grove church near Fountain. He is also from the Central Conference. Charles Warren is the new Alumni representative to the Board. Mr. Warren lives in Rocky Mount and is employed by the Carolina Telephone Company. He is a member of the Rocky Mount Free Will Baptist Church.

The Children's Home Board spends many long, hard hours handling routine business of the Home. In the early spring the Board plans an intensive study of child care today to acquaint itself with new trends in the field and how these trends may or may not influence our Children's Home.

As Executive Director of the Home, I request your prayers for our Board members. They have important decisions to make each meeting and they would want you to remember them always.

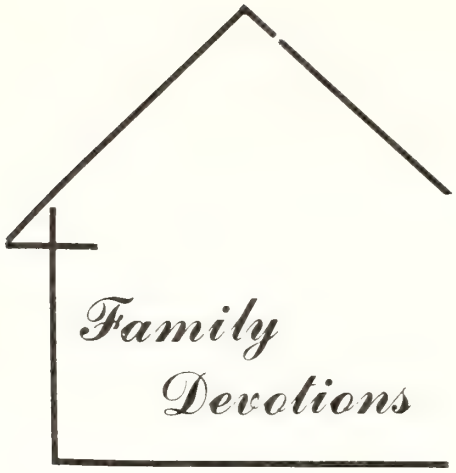
J. Stewart Humphrey
Executive Director

REMEMBER THESE AT CHRISTMAS

Perhaps you would like to send a Christmas present to our home missionaries; if so, you may send your check to Home Missions earmarked, "Missionaries' Christmas Present." You may be sure it will be greatly appreciated. The earlier you send your gift, the better it will be. Send to Taylor Hill, Director-Treasurer, 1207 Arsenal Avenue, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305.



THE YFAs of ORMONDSVILLE Free Will Baptist Church near Maury, North Carolina, recently visited the Children's Home. They had held a rock-a-thon to raise money for the Home. They are shown here presenting a check for $1,021.35 to Mr. Sam Lane, Director of Child Care. This was a great effort on the part of these young people to help others. The Home expresses its sincere gratitude. Friends like these young people help make the Home what it should be.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Scripture Reading—Leviticus 23:3

NO SUNDAY DINNER?

There is an uncomfortable bit of truth in the weary comment of an overworked pastor who sighed when he said, "The membership of the average church is the greatest missionary field on earth."

The police records of every city in America will show that the problem of juvenile delinquency is by no means restricted to the slum areas. Children from some of the best homes in every city are falling into the hands of the police and juvenile authorities, for no other reason than that parents are not accepting their responsibilities for their own children.

We venture a positive assertion, in the confidence that hundreds of thousands of American parents need desperately to awaken to its truthfulness: No Sunday dinner, no Saturday night bridge club, no lodge meeting, no Sunday picnic, no out-of-town pleasure trip, no amusement is as important in the life of a parent as the responsibility for providing religious and moral training for his child.

In our opinion there is a serious need for some extremely straight preaching, as well as for some courageous pastoral work at this very point. Thousands of church mothers need to be told in plain terms that no Sunday dinner is as important as their presence in the church school *with their children.* It may even be necessary for someone to say to some parents, "*You have no right to a child you are unwilling to train.*"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Train up a child in the way he should go. This is a saying that is true. When a child is little, it is time to listen to him and train him in the way that he should go.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Scripture Reading—Acts 13:42

OUR PRESIDENTS AND THE LORD'S DAY

George Washington in the Revolutionary War, Lincoln in the Civil War and Wilson in the first World War all gave orders relieving troops as far as possible from fatigue duty on Sunday, and giving them opportunity to attend public worship. Hayes and Garfield habitually walked to church that their servants might rest and worship on the Lord's Day. Grant, when at Paris, refused to attend horse races on the Lord's Day. McKinley, when at the opening of the State Centennial of Tennessee, refused a trip up Lookout Mountain, saying, "No, I do not go sightseeing on Sunday." Theodore Roosevelt and Coolidge spoke in the appreciation of the Lord's Day; the latter said, "I profoundly believe in the Lord's Day." Hoover, when invited to join a fishing party on the Lord's Day, replied, "The Hoovers never fish on Sunday." President Truman, fishing on the Columbia River, refused to cast a line on Sunday.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus said we should remember to keep the Sabbath Day holy, that means that we should worship God with all our hearts and minds.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Scripture Reading—Isaiah 56:2

COURAGE REWARDED

It was during the stressful days of World War II. The wheels of industry were going night and day, not even stopping on the Lord's Day. To carry the munitions of war to port of debarkation, great demands were made upon the railroads. Workmen were in great demand. Ministers were asked to work for a railroad whose shops were located in the town where I was pastor of a church. A domineering, godless foreman seemed delighted to make the work as embarrassing and unpleasant as he possibly could. He insisted on my working on Sundays, questioning my patriotism for my observing the Lord's Day as a day of rest and worship. I did not hesitate to tell him where I stood and why! He threatened to demote me, and even have me discharged. Unknowing to both of us, a high official overheard the conversation. This official came to me and highly commended me for my courage and conviction, assuring me protection in my position. May God give to each one of us great courage to stand for that which is right, as we safeguard our Christian heritage which has made us great as a nation, and which is so alarmingly slipping from the consciences of many!

PRAYER THOUGHT

May we always keep that American heritage which God has given to us in a land where we can live happy and free.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Scripture Reading—Acts 26:22

A FARM PROBLEM SOLVED

One Saturday a man who was to help some farmers harvest grain, stopped in, saying he would be at a certain farm on Sunday morning to combine their oats and they would lose their turn if they did not take it then. The farmer and his helpers knew Christ as their Saviour and Lord and did not take care of crops on Sunday. This man was rough and worldly and did not understand their feeling about the Lord's Day. The farmer discussed the unpleasant situation with his helpers and they felt sure God would be displeased and could keep them from having to have the combining done on Sunday. The weather looked very pleasant that evening—only a small, innocent-looking cloud in the South, and the sun was shining. Soon the hired man came to the chicken house door, saying it was sprinkling. God had sent that cloud their way. Soon rain was pouring down. It lasted only a few minutes, but it made the Sunday combining impossible, for the grain was soaked. Sunday dawned beautiful and sunny, and the grain dried out and on Monday it was ready for combining. The thing that made them sure God solved their problem: it rained only on their farm—on either side it was dry!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus did not tell us to gather grain on the Sabbath Day. We are to worship Him. He did say if an animal got

out to get him in, so he would not endanger other people's crops.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

Scripture Reading—Revelation 1:10

WHY OBSERVE SUNDAY

Question: Why do we observe Sunday as the Sabbath?

Answer: First, of all, we do not. The Sabbath was the seventh day of the week, but Sunday is the first day. These are two entirely different days. The Christian church observes Sunday, and not the Sabbath, for a number of very good reasons. The first day of the week was the day of our Lord's Resurrection and the day when He first showed Himself to His disciples as alive from the dead. It is called by John "the Lord's Day" (Revelation 1:10). and came to be generally so known during the first centuries of church history. Indeed it never should be referred to by any other name. Not only is the first day of the week the day of our Lord's Resurrection, but it was also the day of the descent of the Holy Spirit. Therefore the day is doubly precious to the Christian. It was the day on which Christians gathered for worship in the earliest days of the church, a practice which has continued down to the present time.

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should rest on one day of the week. This is the day we call Sunday.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

Scripture Reading—Deuteronomy 5:14

HE KNOWS BOTH MEN AND DONKEYS

The London costermongers told Lord Shaftesbury that their donkeys which rested one day in seven could travel thirty miles a day with their loads, while those donkeys that worked seven days a week could only travel fifteen miles a day. So you lose seventy-five miles of travel each week by working your donkey every day, and have a sick, seedy-looking donkey in the bargain; while you gain 3,900 miles of travel in a year, and have a sleek, nice-looking donkey, by running him according to the Ten Commandments. What has a donke to do with the Ten Commandments Why, don't you remember that it says in Deuteronomy 5:14? . . . He who made both man and the donkey knew what was good for them and so put both man and donkey into the Commandments. Infidelity doesn't know enough to run a donkey without killing it; and as for man, in Paris, where there is no Sabbath, there are more suicides in proportion to the population than in any other city in Christendom.

PRAYER THOUGHT

God created the donkey, but He also created the man. He made man to have more knowledge than He did the donkey. Man is to take care of the donkey.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Scripture Reading—Psalm 95:11

MAN'S PHYSICAL NEED OF A REST DAY

There is a Sabbath law operative in man. Two generations ago, Dr. Haegler of Switzerland, in making tests of the amount of oxygen in the system, discovered that more oxygen was lost in a day's toil than was recovered by a night's rest; but the Sabbath made good the cumulative losses of the week of toil. Experience proves that men cannot endure manual toil seven days a week continuously. The Henry Ford Motor Company went back to a six-day work week, not so much because of a shortage of aluminum, but of consideration of health conditions of workers. A company spokesman said that seven days of toil had ill effects on the workers.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Man can work so many hours that he can be physically tired. His work will not be what it should be. He may even be fired. This is why man should rest.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.

SOLVE THE PUZZLE

by Joyce Tilghman

B	T	T	S	H	E	D	O	G	S	U	O	L	A	E	J
T	E	G	A	M	I	N	E	V	A	R	G	E	M	N	C
O	N	A	C	T	E	M	M	A	D	N	O	U	E	W	D
M	E	N	R	T	S	R	E	X	U	O	D	D	I	A	U
P	R	A	E	F	S	C	C	H	L	A	P	C	G	L	T
I	E	E	D	R	A	B	U	Y	T	Y	L	O	H	R	T
H	H	T	K	I	L	L	R	W	E	E	N	N	B	U	T
S	T	O	N	G	U	E	S	Y	R	S	N	D	O	O	H
N	A	O	F	U	L	S	I	E	Y	D	E	E	U	B	E
O	F	B	E	F	F	S	N	L	W	O	R	M	R	A	V
I	H	M	U	N	E	I	G	P	D	I	H	N	N	L	R
T	C	O	M	M	A	N	D	M	E	N	T	S	O	A	E
A	O	D	N	L	U	G	D	E	R	H	E	N	E	E	S
L	V	S	A	O	R	E	H	T	O	M	R	R	E	T	B
E	E	I	T	V	U	S	A	H	T	A	B	B	A	S	O
R	T	W	L	E	S	R	W	O	R	S	H	I	P	O	S

Find all the words listed below in the puzzle, then use some of the letters remaining in the puzzle to find what the puzzle is about.

God
graven image
jealous God
mercy
commandments
worship
kill
love
adultery
relationship
sacred
guilt
offend
Law
condemn
Honour
Father
Mother
heart
bear false witness
neighbour
wisdom
blessing
cursing
brethren
tongue
Sabbath
Holy
observe
temple
labour
steal
Ten

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Mount Olive, North Carolina

A SPECIAL PRESENTATION



THE JOHN ANDERSON FAMILY of Gethsemane Free Will Baptist Church in New Bern, North Carolina, came to Mount Olive College recently, so that son, Claude, could present his own gift of $15 toward the building program of College Hall. Claude, who is nine years old, wanted to help when he learned about the College Hall project from Dr. W. Burkette Raper, college president, who spoke at his church. Shown from left are: Gethsemane pastor, the Rev. Lonnie Mann; Mr. and Mrs. Anderson; Claude; and Dr. Raper.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, December 5—Handel's Messiah—presented by the Mount Olive College Chorus at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. in Rodgers' Chapel. The public is invited.

Monday, December 25—Christmas Carousel, Mount Olive College Chorus presents a program on the Christmas Carousel at 6:30 a. m. on WITN-TV, Channel 7, Washington, North Carolina.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Eighteen-year-old Debbie Jordan from Colquitt, Georgia, is Mount Olive College Student of the Week.

Debbie decided to come to Mount Olive College after hearing her preacher, Bass Mitchell, and his wife, Debbie, talk about their experiences at Mount Olive before graduating in 1975.

"They seemed to enjoy the college and community so much while they were here, I decided to see for myself," Debbie said.

When asked where Colquitt was located in Georgia, Debbie replied with a Carter-like Southern drawl, "about an hour and a half south of Plains." It was also revealed that Colquitt lies 25 miles north of the Florida border and 45 minutes east of the Alabama border.

Debbie is the recipient of a Faculty Scholarship and participates in the Academic Honors Program. She plans to major in elementary education and teach third grade. As a part of her educational experience, she is serving as a teacher's aide at Carver Elementary in Mount Olive under third grade teacher, Mrs. Ruth Parker.

"Being with those children in Mrs. Parker's room just assures me that I'll love teaching this age group," she added.

Debbie and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jordan, are members of Colquitt Free Will Baptist Church.

MRS. RILEY TO SPEAK

Mrs. Dianne B. Riley, Associate Director of Admissions at Mount Olive College, will teach a study course at Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Pitt County on Wednesday, December 6, at 7:30 p. m.

The study course is on Evangelism. The church pastor is the Rev. Gary Bailey.

ADMISSIONS OFFICERS IN HIGH SCHOOLS

Russell W. Duncan and Dianne B. Riley, Admissions Officers at Mount Olive College, will visit in the following high schools beginning December 4:

December 4— Lumberton Senior High
Bladen County Schools,
Bladen Technical Institute
Creswell High School
Columbia High School

December 5— Whiteville Senior High
Columbus County Schools,
Southeastern Community College
Plymouth High School
Jamesville High School

(Continued on Page 11)

Handel's Messiah
to be presented by the
Mount Olive College Chorus
under the direction of
Mrs. Irene Patten
Tuesday, December 5th
in Rodgers' Chapel
11 a. m. and 8 p. m.
Public is cordially invited.

Debbie Jordan



Pastor of the Week

THE REV. TAYLOR HILL

A FEW WEEKS AGO we asked if you would like to honor your pastor through The Free Will Baptist. Today we have the very first church to respond—the Haymount Mission at Fayetteville, North Carolina. We are sure that the Rev. and Mrs. Hill will appreciate this honor. Who will be next?



The Rev. and Mrs. Taylor Hill

IN HONOR OF OUR PASTOR, TAYLOR HILL

There is a special person in our denomination whom most of us probably know or have heard of. His name is the Rev. Taylor Hill. He is a man of many attributes, but the main and foremost one is his love and dedication to God and mankind. The life that he lives can truly be an inspiration and example to Christians everywhere. His faith in God is portrayed in each step he takes in life.

Among the many phases of service to our denomination, he has been involved in Home Missions for 15 years. He started his first mission at Fayetteville in February, 1964, which grew into a church that is now known as Eastwood. Under his pastorship and ministry, the Eastwood Mission became one of the top ten churches in our denomination in evangelism and denominational support. Also, four new ministers were ordained from its congregation. They were: Charles Parrish, Jesse Caton, Alton Howard, and John Gilliland. His church also served as the mother church for Victory and Catalpa Missions. During the first five years of his ministry, he refused to be paid a salary.

In 1972, our State Home Missions Department was established and he was elected director, secretary, and treasurer. Since then, he and the Home Missions Department have made and are still making many accomplishments.

Four and one-half years after becoming involved in our State Home Missions Department, he resigned as pastor of Eastwood church to start another mission now known as Haymount Mission.

Other denominational activities that he has been involved in include:

1. Was recreational director of the Cape Fear Youth Conference,
2. Has served as chairman of the Cape Fear Mission Board,
3. Was on the North Carolina Sunday School Board,
4. Has served as secretary of the General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists and,
5. Has been recently elected to the Cape Fear Board of Education.

He has always been conscious of the needs of others. In 1969, he headed the campaign for the Sunday Blue Law. This law would not allow certain businesses in Cumberland County to be open on Sunday. This enabled Christians to attend their church rather than having to work. He collected approximately 9,000 signatures and succeeded in getting the Blue Law passed. As of now this law is still in effect.

From the beginning of his ministry, he promoted the idea of a charity fund in the church. This fund was for the purpose of helping people in need. Anyone who could gave to this special fund after having paid their regular tithes. This program has fed a numerous amount of hungry people, clothed many bodies, and provided shelter to a number of less fortunate individuals.

Though his accomplishments in life are many, he takes no credit. He is often heard to say, "I am what I am only by the grace of God."

We at the Haymount Mission are very fortunate and blessed to have such a dedicated and uncompromising pastor. We would like to express our love and thanks to you, Brother Hill, and also to your dear wife, Lois. The love and support she gives you and to God's work is a lighthouse to all who know her.

May God continue to shower you with His blessings and may you forever know that we love and appreciate you.

Submitted by,
Gail Canady

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

(Continued from Page 10)

December 6— E. A. Laney High School (Castle Hayne)
New Hanover High School (Wilmington)
Hoggard High School (Wilmington)

December 7— New Hanover High School
North Brunswick High School (Leland)

December 8— Pender County Schools, Pender High School (Burgaw)

Free Will Baptist students attending these high schools are invited to come by for a visit and bring their friends.

SECRETARIAL OPENING

Mount Olive College has an opening for a qualified secretary in the admissions office. Applicant should be mature, and responsible self-starter, with strong typing and record-keeping abilities. Position involves independent responsibilities and meeting the public. College education recommended and office experience preferred.

Interested persons should apply with resume to Russell W. Duncan, Director of Admissions, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, NC 28365 (919) 658-2502.

NOVEMBER IS CHILDREN'S HOME MONTH

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For December 10

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES

Lesson Text: Psalm 119:33, 34; 2 Peter 1:16-18, 20, 21; 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Memory Verse: Psalm 119:18

I INTRODUCTION

Today's printed text comes from three widely separated and yet related passages. The writer of Psalm 119 is asking for understanding of the Scriptures and for faithfulness in following them. The passage from 2 Peter underscores the fact that the Scriptures are not a product of human ingenuity, but that they were revealed by God to man through the Spirit. The portion of the text coming from 2 Timothy stresses the fact that the Scriptures are adequate for all things that man needs to lead him to salvation.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Bible is composed of two parts, called the Old Testament and the New Testament. In the Old Testament there are thirty-nine books, and in the New there are twenty-seven, making a total of sixty-six books. These books were written by many different authors over a period of some sixteen hundred years. The original writings were composed in three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek.

B. How this book, composed of sixty-six books, came to be called the Bible is interesting. When Paul wrote to Timothy from the prison in Rome, he asked his young friend to visit him and ''. . . when thou comest bring with thee, . . . the books, but especially the parchments'' (2 Timothy 4:13). The Greek words that Paul used for ''books'' and ''parchments'' are **biblia** and **membranae**. Actually, these terms indicate the materials upon which the writing was done. The most common writing material was papyrus, because it was comparatively cheap. It is known to have been used in Egypt as early as 3000 B.C. and from its name we get our word paper. It was made from the pith of the papyrus plant. It was common practice to fasten sheets of papyrus end to end to form a roll, and this roll came to be called **biblos** or **biblion** by the Greeks. A **biblion**, therefore, was the equivalent of what we call a book; and the plural, **biblia**, came to be applied to the entire collection of the Old and New Testament books. Over a period of time, the word **biblia** was brought into the English language as Bible.

C. The Bible is the charter of Christianity. If there were no Bible, there would be no Christianity. To undermine, discredit, and reject the Bible is to undermine, discredit, and reject Christianity. Because of its unique position and its value to Christians, the Bible is loved by all Christians. They may not agree on its interpretation, but if they are Christian they love the Bible.

D. The Bible asserts itself to be the Word of God. ''For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe'' (1 Thessalonians 2:13). So the authority of the Bible is not derived from reason, but from God himself. Human reason needs to be approved by the Bible and not the Bible by our reason. Its authority is not derived from the church. The Bible does not appeal to the church; it commands it. The Bible does not get its authority from emotions. It does not appeal to our feelings; instead it demands obedience. The authority of the Bible comes from God.

E. The 1955 revision of the **Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina** says this about the Bible: ''These are the Old and New Testaments; they were written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and are God's revealed word to man. They are a sufficient and infallible rule and guide to Salvation and all Christian worship and service.'' All that is required to know in regard to faith and practice is contained in the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make us wise unto salvation.

F. In our Bible text for this lesson, we have three passages, one from the Old Testament and two from the New. These passages emphasize three important words as they relate to Scripture: illumination, purpose, and inspiration. A careful look at these passages should give us a greater appreciation for the Bible, God's Holy Word.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Could God speak to us in an audible voice—one we could hear as we would hear a human being? Of course He can; nothing is impossible for God. And some even claim to have had such an experience, but most of us have never heard Him speak in that way. (We will not judge what others say, for God moves and reveals Himself in strange and wondrous ways.)

B. God does not have to speak in an audible voice, He speaks in other ways. He usually does not speak to us in some mysterious, unexplainable manner, He speaks through impressions the Holy Spirit makes upon our consciences and our hearts. He may even speak to us in dreams.

C. There is also one way in which He speaks to everyone: through His holy Word, the Bible. This book comes from the mind and heart of God and contains many messages for us. When we read His Word sincerely, and with open minds, these messages get through to us, just as if He were sitting in our living room talking to us. For this to happen, we must believe that it is His Word and that His Spirit moved upon the men who wrote it. The unbeliever does not get the message; he does not ''hear'' the voice of God. The Spirit-filled child of God does.

D. In our lesson today we will read His word, listen for His voice, and let Him speak to us through its pages. We will hear Jesus speak to us and, if we are very attentive, we can hear Him speak to us through those around us who are in touch with Him.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

Cragmont Bulletin

"The Mountaintop Experience"

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Skinner, Managers
Black Mountain, N. C.

CRAGMONT TREASURER'S REPORT
OCTOBER, 1978

Balance Brought Forward, October 1, 1978		$ 196.11
Receipts		
Albemarle Conference		
Sidney	$ 24.54	$ 24.54
Cape Fear Conference		
Lee's Chapel Fellowship Class	54.00	
Hopewell	250.01	
Palmer Memorial	48.01	
Saint Mary's Grove	150.00	
Yelverton Grove	100.00	$ 602.02
Central Conference		
The Rev. and Mrs. L.E. Ballard	25.00	
Friendship Sunday School	25.00	
Owens Chapel League	50.00	
Saratoga Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Brown	50.00	
Winterville	100.00	250.00
Eastern Conference		
Crab Point Church	15.00	15.00
Western Conference		
Barnes Hill	440.00	
Marsh Swamp Sunday School	100.00	
Mrs. Virginia Bunn	25.00	
Milbournie	23.00	
Sherron Acres	100.00	
Spring Hill Ambassador's Class	25.00	
Stoney Creek	1,000.00	
Piney Grove	30.00	
Mrs. Leon Edwards	25.00	
Adult Class	25.00	
Wilson Girl's Auxiliary	25.00	$1,818.00
Others:		
8 Boxes Christmas Cards	14.00	14.00
Total Receipts from Church and Individuals		$ 2,723.56
Withdrawal from Savings		44,730.00
Total for Which to Account		$47,649.67
Disbursements		
Operational Expenses	$ 436.19	
Transfer to Main Building Fund	1,915.01	
Cliff Meyer (Second Partial Payment on Main Building)	42,228.00	
Suburban Propane (Heating Units Installed in Dining Hall)	1,149.10	
Total Disbursements		45,728.30
Balance on Hand, November 1, 1978		$ 1,921.37
EARMARKED FUNDS		
General Fund		$ 1,921.37
General Savings		839.94
Memorial Funds		1,330.00
Main Building Fund		541.12
Total in Bank, November 1, 1978		$ 4,632.43

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer
Route 1
Sims, North Carolina 27880

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

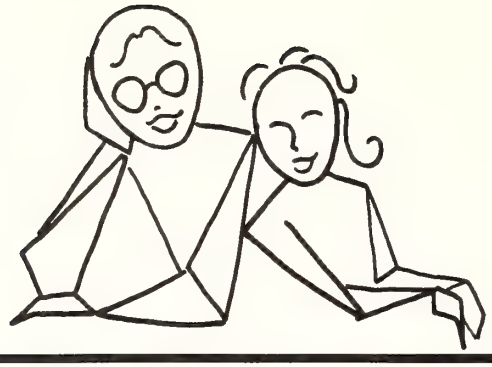
The Rev. C. L. Patrick wishes to announce that he is now serving as pastor of the Bethany Free Will Baptist Church of the Central Conference. His new address is Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, North Carolina 28590. His telephone number is 756-2391.

THINK ABOUT IT

Work on this one a bit: "It's a fine thing to have an open mind so long as it is not open at both ends." —Dr. Madison Sarratt, Vanderbilt University

What do you see in this? How about these two: (1) Take in all you can learn that's good but don't let it "go in one ear and out the other." (2) Let your mind receive every good thing that comes your way, but don't let evil thoughts come in and take over.

Got a better idea?



story corner

THE PARTY THAT WASN'T

by Wanda M. Trawick

DON hung up the phone, a worried frown on his face.

"Come on, let's go!" urged Robbie. "We'll be late!"

"We've got plenty of time," said Don, picking up his skates and moving toward the door.

The snow had not been cleared from all the walks, and the boys struggled through drifts on the way to the pond.

"Why so glum?" asked Robbie. "I thought you were looking forward to this party."

"I am," said Don. "I guess the snow's been cleared off the rink."

"Sure," said Robbie impatiently, "so what's your trouble? I thought you said you and your holy friends always had such good times together. Now you look like you're dreading the party."

Don flushed. "I didn't call them 'holy,'" he protested. "And I am looking forward to the party. It's just that Mrs. Ellison called and asked if I could shovel her walk and driveway today. I usually do it for her, and she needs to get out to the doctor."

"Is that all?" shrugged Robbie. "She can get someone else to do it."

"I don't think so," said Don thoughtfully. "Her house sits back kind of far from the street, and she can't pay much. Nobody likes to do it for her. Besides, most of the kids will be at the skating party, and the men are all at work."

"So?" grunted Robbie. "That's her problem, not yours!"

Don slogged along silently. Sometimes he wondered why he liked Robbie. They were so different now. Robbie thought church was silly and made fun of his Christian friends. And he never could understand Don's concern for other people.

Don tucked his chin into his muffler and thought again about Mrs. Ellison's problem.

"Hi, Don! Robbie! Wait up!" a voice called.

Don turned. "Hi, Linda," he said to the red-haired girl struggling through a small snowdrift, her skates slung over her shoulder.

"I might have known she'd be coming," muttered Robbie, "Miss Goody-goody herself."

Don threw the other boy a sharp glance. He was beginning to wish he hadn't invited Robbie.

"Whew!" exclaimed Linda, "The snow is deep! I've been helping Dad clear our driveway."

"Yeah," muttered Don, "I helped this morning, too." He paused and bit his lip. "I had an offer from Mrs. Ellison to shovel hers off, too."

"Oh, that's right!" said Linda, stopping in her tracks. "Dad sometimes does it for her when she can't get anyone else, but he had to leave for work as soon as we could get our car out."

"Come on, you two!" shouted Robbie up ahead. "Everyone's there but us!"

Don looked up. Several of the kids were already out on the rink. Others were putting on their skates. Mr. Holden, sponsor of the Bible Club, had a crackling fire going. Robbie hurried toward the group, as he and Linda lagged behind.

"I don't suppose—," Don hesitated. "I don't suppose some of us could go on over to Mrs. Ellison's and do the job for her." He looked doubtfully at Linda. "It wouldn't take very long if we all pitched in. And she only lives a couple of blocks from here."

Linda's green eyes sparkled. "Of course we could!" she said. "I'm the Projects chairman, and we need a good project this week."

Don and Linda presented their plan to the group. Mr. Holden approved but let the kids decide. Robbie looked on in disbelief as the club voted to clean off Mrs. Ellison's walk and driveway before going on with the skating party.

He threw his skates down in disgust. "I can't believe it!" he snapped at Don.

Don felt his face grow hot. He wished Robbie wouldn't sound off in front of everybody. Some of the kids were staring at him.

"It won't take long, Robbie," he said, "and it will be fun doing it together."

"Nothing doing!" Robbie hissed. "I'm not about to shovel snow for some old lady I don't even know. I came to a skating party, and I'm going to skate!"

Don knew it was no use arguing. "Well, we'll see you when we get back," he mumbled.

"Don't hold your breath," growled Robbie. "I've got better things to do than hang around waiting for a bunch of crazy do-gooders!"

Don trudged slowly after the merry group. They were happy about their decision, but he felt miserable. He was getting nowhere with Robbie. He had hoped his friend would be impressed with the good times the Bible Club had together. Now it looked hopeless.

"I'm sorry about your friend, Don."

He looked up. Linda had fallen in beside him.

"Yeah," he muttered. "Looks like I really messed things up."

Linda's eyes opened wide in surprise. "What do you mean, you messed things up?" she asked. "Don't you think we're doing the right thing?"

"Well, yes," Don said lamely. "It's just that now Robbie is mad and thinks we're all crazy."

"Is what he thinks that important to you?"

Don frowned and kicked at a chunk of ice lying in the path. "It's pretty important, I guess. Robbie and I were best friends before I became a Christian.

Since then, things haven't been the same. We just don't understand each other any more.''

Linda nodded, and Don stumbled on. ''I invite him to Bible Club, but he just laughs. I thought the skating party would sort of break him in—then I came up with this crazy idea about Mrs. Ellison.''

''Don't call it a crazy idea!'' exclaimed Linda, her green eyes snapping. ''You know good and well it was the Christian thing to do. And we're going to have fun doing it, so wipe that frown off your face!''

''I know, I know,'' said Don. ''You're going to give me Mr. Holden's motto: Do the right thing, pray the right thing, and you'll never go wrong!''

Linda laughed. ''Well, we're doing the right thing. Now we'll pray the right thing. We'll get the whole Bible Club to pray for Robbie.''

Don choked. ''He'll have a fit if he finds out!''

Linda grinned. ''We won't tell him,'' she said.

Coming Events . . .

December—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

December 4—Revision Committee will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Ayden, at 10 a. m.

December—Handel's Messiah presented by the Mount Olive College Concert Chorus. Programs at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. in Rodgers' Chapel. Public invited.

December 15—Fall Semester Ends, Mount Olive College. Residence Halls reopen Monday, January 8.

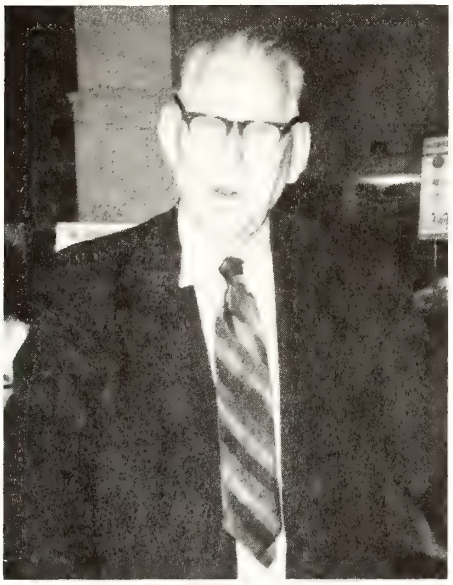
December 15—Annual Christmas Program and Party, 6 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

December 16—Christmas Holidays, Mount Olive College

December 25—Christmas Day

December 25, 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

THE REV. L. E. BALLARD DIES



The Rev. Loy E. Ballard died Sunday, November 19, in the Pitt Memorial Hospital, Greenville, North Carolina. He was 79.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, November 21, at 3 p. m. in the First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, of which he was a member. Presiding were the pastor, the Rev. Davie Brinson, and the Rev. Raymond T. Sasser of Wilson, North Carolina.

The Free Will Baptist Press, where he worked for many years, extends sincere sympathy to the family and relatives.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Rev. James Warren of Kinston announces that he is available for a full-time church. He can be reached by calling 527-1648. He is also free to come and hold services on any given Sunday that he may be called. He is a member and in good standing with the Eastern Conference. His address is the Rev. James Warren, 1000 Poplar Street, Kinston, North Carolina 28501.

The Rev. Boyd Shook announces that he is now available for pastoral or evangelistic work in Free Will Baptist churches of North Carolina. He is a member of the Western Conference and in good standing with the same. Any church desiring the services of Mr. Shook may contact him by phoning 965-3032 or by writing to him at Box 465, Selma, North Carolina 27576.

To Timothy

By Sue Fife, reprinted from *Christian Herald*

Paul's second letter to Timothy was written from Rome, when Paul was a prisoner during the reign of Emperor Nero.

First, read 2 Timothy 4:9-21 and then this poem. It seems only yesterday that it was warm September; now it is cool, late November. Soon the harsh winds of December will chill us. Think of this as you read the poem.

. . . And bring my cloak, he wrote;
You'll find it on a peg
Inside the room that Carpus let me use.
The memory of his kindness
Warms a little of this chill.

Prisons never seem to lose
Their dampness.
It penetrates the marrow
Of my bones.

Will you try with all your diligence
To come, before the cruelty of winter
Seals the sea?
My time is close, and I would like
My books, the warmth of that old coat,
And you and Mark and Luke,
Beloved friends,
To spend my given time
With me.

WA FIELD DIRECTOR AVAILABLE FOR SERVICES

Mrs. Ruth Taylor, field director for the North Carolina State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, announces that she is available for services in churches and auxiliaries if needed. She will be happy to meet with your group and offer whatever assistance she can.

Mrs. Taylor's address is 1719 South Elm Street, Greenville, North Carolina 27834. Her telephone number is 756-2965.

December Is Foreign Missions Month

Baptizing New Converts Is What Missions Is All about. Your Prayers and Financial Support Will Make This Scene Happen Again and Again. Please Remember.



Vance Link Baptizing Candidates in Jimenez

GIVE AN OFFERING TO FOREIGN MISSIONS IN DECEMBER AND YOUR CHRISTMAS WILL BE BETTER THAN IT HAS EVER BEEN

Send Your Gifts to:

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FOREIGN MISSION BOARD

P. O. BOX 979, GOLDSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27530

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

CHURCH OF THE MONTH

AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1978

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
DEC 1?
DURHAM, N. C.



MOUNT ZION FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Roper, North Carolina
W. C. Overton, Pastor

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DECEMBER 6, 1978

Volume 93 Number 48

The Rev. C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

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All subscriptions are payable in advance; one year, $5; two years, $9; four years, $17; plus sales tax where it applies.

Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

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Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

The Devil in Jonestown

THE HOUND OF HELL DEVOURS 910

Now, do you believe there is a devil?

Perhaps you always have, but I am sure the loved ones of more than 900 persons who engaged in mass suicide in Guyana must have concluded that there is something evil astride the globe.

There is; it is the corruptive crunch of him who is the father of evil: Satan.

What was wrong with the self-styled "Rev." Jim Jones? Why would any human being, rational or otherwise, be the instigator of such a grisly, macabre mass murder?

According to reports, he wasn't such a bad guy when young and growing up. True, he had some eccentric ways—but then most of us might be afflicted with some forms of abnormality, especially before Christ came into our lives.

What happened to Jim Jones in his later years?

We know what some well-meaning analysts might offer as explanations; one being that Jones was a pitiable victim of a warped, twisted mind, possessed of a sense of grandiose self-aggrandizement, all of which led him to be responsible for the incredible deaths of 910 persons; that what he did was basically psychotic in nature.

Well, I have read quite a bit of psychology, had many hours of training in it while in college, and even attempted to teach it for several years. I will be the first to admit to the possibility of psychopathic disorder in the human mind.

But there is more here. Ever since the beginning of the human race Satan has made assaults on the human psyche, and Jim Jones was indeed a victim, but a victim of the devil himself.

If after learning of the Jonestown tragedy you still have some doubts that there is a real, live, personal devil—out to get you, me, and everybody else he can—what else would really explain this terrible event?

If you have a better explanation for such incredibly evil behavior of human beings, don't hold it back; the world needs it. The next life your explanation might save could very well be your own.

If you don't have a better one, then why not accept the truth of God's Word and know for a fact that the devil does exist, and that he is abroad in the land.

He is the hound of hell and he crouches at your door and mine, waiting to devour us in that unguarded moment. (See Genesis 4:7.)

History of MOUNT ZION FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Roper, North Carolina

by Beulah Whitson

MOUNT Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Roper, was founded as most of our churches are today. Someone obeys the Great Commission given by Christ Jesus: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:19, 20).

Mount Zion, as it is known today, caught the vision in a little schoolhouse known as Beech Grove School about three hundred yards from the present location of the church.

A traveling evangelist, Brother Macon Lemons, held a meeting here, and Sunday school was started in the afternoons. As it continued to grow, the enthusiasm of its members also grew and they decided they wanted to build a church nearby.

On July 18, 1920, seven members, Mrs. Julia Singleton, Mr. L. L. Phelps, Mr. Raymond Davenport, Mrs. Ceedie Phelps, Miss Rosa Marriner, Mr. Milton Oliver, and Mrs. Claudia Oliver, met in the schoolhouse to organize this church.

Since Mr. Lemons was a member of the Rockfish Conference, some distance away, he advised them to get someone closer to help organize and serve the church.

Mrs. Julia Singleton, a former member of Shiloh church, suggested getting Brother E. T. Phillips to come and organize the church in the Original Faith of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina. Mrs. Singleton also gave the church its name of Mount Zion.

After much praying, and with the cooperation of the people in the community, a church building program was started. One-half acre of land was bought for $10 from Mr. Frank Phelps to build upon. He gave the church logs for the lumber to build the church, and later returned the money paid for the land. Many in the community gave of their time and money to help with this church. Soon they were holding services, and the church began to grow under the leadership of Brother Phillips.

The church is 58 years old. Even during the depression, when money was scarce, its doors remained open.

With Christ Jesus as the foundation of the church and with God's faithful ministers proclaiming the Word of God in its entirety, the Lord has blessed us, many souls have been saved, and we are thankful for each one.

The church building has been completely renovated inside and out and we are thankful for all the improvements. Since our present pastor, the Rev. Charlie Overton, has been with us, the church has added two classrooms, bathrooms, a new heating and air conditioning system, and a new room to the church. We have also added a new, large porch, painted the church inside and out, and installed an outside bulletin board.

Although the church building has changed, the members have grown older, and some have gone on to meet the Lord, I'm thankful that God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, is still the same He was yesterday, today, and forever.

We are thankful for the spiritual growth of the church under the leadership of our present pastor who is now in the sixteenth year of faithful service to the church. His never-ceasing prayers for the needs of the people have meant so much toward its growth and will always be remembered and appreciated.

Pastors who served Mount Zion church from 1920 to the present time were the Revs: E. T. Phillips, Cecil Alexander, Clyde Ange, Walter Nobles, Charlie Jones, R. H. Mason, C. L. Bennett, Tom Davenport, R. P. Harris, W. H. F. Ivey, E. E. Edwards, L. A. Ambrose, and Charlie Overton.

The first deacons of the church were L. L. Phelps, Tom Dillion, and Joe Chesson. Other deacons have been Edward Marriner, Norton Marriner, Delma Peele, George Peele, Tom West, Raymond Cammon, and Billy Chappell. The present deacons are Lloyd Jones Jr., James Hassell, James Hardison, and Ernest Whitson.

The first trustees were T. W. Dillion, L. L. Phelps, and Joe Davis, while the present trustees are Ronda Lee Davenport, Marvin Peele, and Norton Marriner.

At one time, Free Will Baptist churches had ruling elders. Our were John Roughton, Joe Davis, and Gabe Jones.

Other current officers of the church include: clerk, Beulah Whitson; assistant clerk, Eloise Hassell; treasurer, Lucille Jones; assistant treasurer, Ruth Davenport; pianist, Lucille Jones; and assistant pianist, Greg Oliver.

Present Sunday school officers are superintendent, Lloyd Jones Jr.; assistant superintendent, James Hassell; pianist, Greg Oliver; and secretary, Patricia Jones.

The Sunday school teaching staff includes Mae Oliver, Beulah Whitson, Eloise Hassell, Hilda Hardison, Lucille Jones, Kimberly Oliver, Darlene Oliver, Lloyd Jones Jr., and Ruby Boone.

Free Will Baptist League officers are director, Teresa Free; pianist, Greg Oliver; leaders of departments: Darlene Oliver, Elizabeth Free, and Mae Oliver.

We thank God for Mount Zion church and for all His many blessings. May His loving watchful eye ever be upon it, guiding it day by day to that eternal home in Heaven above.

A LIFE INCOME CONTRACT WITH MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

W. Burkette Raper, President

YOU can do something good now. There is enough time left this year for you to save on your 1978 federal and state income taxes and to increase your income for next year and for years to come. By making a life-income investment with Mount Olive College you will be doing something good for yourself and at the same time you will be practicing good Christian stewardship.

Since Mount Olive College entered its first life-income contract three years ago, more than $500,000 has been invested in this program. It is one of the most attractive and most rewarding opportunities available to Christian people who have limited resources but who want to make a meaningful investment in God's work through Christian higher education. The following questions and answers are designed to provide basic information on the nature and operation of the program.

Life Income Plan Explained

Question: What is a life-income contract with Mount Olive College?

Answer: In exchange for an investment of money, real estate, stock or other securities the College signs a legal contract to pay you an income for the rest of your life. Then the investment becomes the property of the College and is used to advance the work of God through Christian education.

Question: How is the income I receive determined?

Answer: That depends upon the kind of contract and your own particular circumstances. At present our lowest return is 7.5 percent and our highest is 12 percent. Each contract is individually prepared to provide the best income and best tax advantage for the donor. Recent contracts have averaged 8.5 percent.

Question: Is my income fixed or flexible?

Answer: It can be a guaranteed amount for life or it can be left open to be determined by the earnings of the investment. This decision is left to the donor.

Question: How often will I receive my income?

Answer: That depends upon your preferences and the size of your investment. Most of our contracts call for quarterly payments, but the frequency of payment can be scheduled annually, semi-annual or even monthly. You decide.

Question: How much must I invest to participate?

Answer: The minimum investment is $1,000 with no limit beyond this amount. Our current largest investors are in excess of $100,000.

Question: Can my contract be written so that the income will be payable to a dependent (wife, husband or child) in case they survive me?

Answer: Yes, and the amount paid to them for life will be the same as paid to you.

Question: What is the best way for me to invest: money, stocks or land?

Answer: That depends upon your individual circumstances which we will be glad to review with you. If the investment is made with assets which have increased in value (farm land, urban real estate, stocks, or other securities) the contract can be written so there will be no capital gains taxes.

Question: My funds are tied up in certificates of deposit which will not mature until some time in the future. Can I use these funds for a life-income contract without an interest penalty?

Answer: Yes. The transfer can be arranged without any penalty or loss of interest on your part or by the College, and this transfer can be made at any time. It is not necessary to wait until the end of the quarter.

Taxes and Internal Revenue

Question: What are the tax advantages of a life-income contract with Mount Olive College?

Answer: They are significant and the tax savings can often result in a substantial increase in after tax income. In the first place, you get an immediate income tax charitable deduction at the time you make the investment with the College. The amount of the deduction is based on the size of the investment and your age. (The older you are the larger the charitable deduction you are allowed.) In addition, under a Charitable Gift Annuity contract, a major portion of your annual income is tax free. Furthermore, an income contract with Mount Olive College can be made free of estate taxes.

Question: I do not want to get into any tax trouble. Is the Mount Olive College program approved by the Internal Revenue Service?

Answer: Yes. All of our life-income contracts are prepared by a nationally recognized tax attorney to assure that they meet all requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. They are also submitted to you for review by your own tax counsel.

Question: What is the tax exempt status of Mount Olive College?

Answer: Mount Olive College is a tax-exempt institution as defined by federal and state laws for charitable gifts, and we cannot afford to jeopardize this status by engaging in "tax evasion techniques." Our program is based on well-established provisions authorized by the United States Congress to encourage public spirited citizens to voluntarily support educational and charitable causes. No investor in a life-income contract with us has ever had the charitable deduction under this program disqualified or disallowed.

Advantages of a Life-Income Plan

Question: Why should I invest in a life-income contract with Mount Olive College?

Answer: Because you believe in the work of our College and because you want to help young men and women prepare for a life of Christian service.

Question: What are the advantages of an income contract over a direct gift?

Answer: You retain the income from

your gift in case you should need it for current expenses or future emergencies.

Question: Are there any advantages of an income contract over a provision in my will for the College?

Answer: Yes, there are many. With an income contract you receive the satisfaction while you are living that you have made an investment in God's work that will do good beyond your years on earth. Also, you benefit from income tax savings now and thereby increase the amount of money you retain for living expenses, savings or gifts, and in addition your estate receives the same tax savings from an income contract it would if you made the gift in your will. A further advantage is that an income contract cannot be contested after your death as can a will. Finally, an income contract is private and is not probated (put on public record) as is your will. At your death, anyone can go to the courthouse and read your will but an income contract remains a private transaction between the donor and the College.

For More Information

If you are interested in more information, please call (919) 658-2502 or return the following form to President W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365. Your reply will be in confidence and will place you under no obligation.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Date of Birth _____

____ Male Marital Status _____

____ Female

WE READ IT IN THIS PAPER

44 Years Ago

". . . we are in need of manuscript for the next issue of the **Baptist**. . . REMEMBER, however, that you should take plenty of time to prepare your manuscript the very best possible. DON'T send in just ANYTHING written just ANYWAY. Write and rewrite your article until it is like you want it. And DON'T FORGET to double space when using a typewriter, and to use good paper, to write large and plainly, and to give plenty of space between the lines when using pen or pencil."—Editor

(By the way, this is still good advice for all who send in manuscripts.—C.F.B.)

"The State Free Will Baptist League Convention met July 4, 5, at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church. The president being absent, C. F. Bowen of Durham was called upon to take charge. We noted that he presided with becoming grace and dignity. He was later elected president of the convention.

"Mr. Bowen was accompanied by his lovely young bride of only three months whose name is Rose."—Editorial (by the Rev. E. T. Phillips)

Watch this column next week; we are going to take you farther back—much farther—than 1934.

THANKS AND GIVING

by Mrs. Hershel Bowen

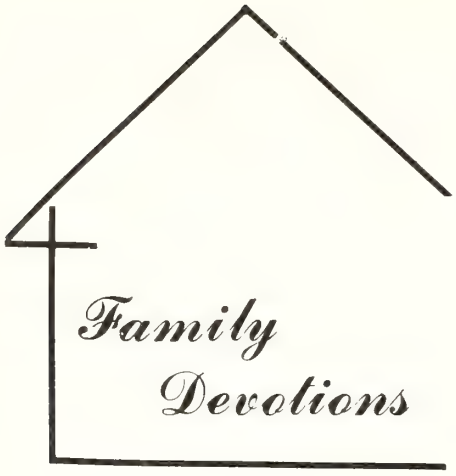
Thanksgiving Day has come and gone. Have we let thanks and giving go? We have so many things to give thanks for every day. The tears which we shed yesterday for a disappointment or a heartache that we thought would never stop hurting were wiped away by God in His tender mercy. The crops were so wonderful this year. Only by the hand of God could we have had so much. The rains came and God poured out His goodness upon us. Sometimes as I watched the rains I could feel God crying for the sins of this world. How many tears have we caused others? May our love for others erase the tears we've caused. I often ask myself. "What have I done to deserve so much love and mercy from Jesus?"

Have we ever given thanks for the things that did not happen to us? Can we go smiling or singing on life's highway? or do we complain too much? As we look into the face of a little child, we see trust and love. It seems to be so easy for them. All we have to say is, "Give me a little sugar," and a kiss is planted on our cheeks. Then why are we, as adults so stiff and afraid to say, "I love you"? But if you love someone, say it and also show it. The love we give away will come back to us. May each of us learn to smile even when pain, tears, or heartaches are ours to bear.

In Revelation 22 we read about the pure river of the water of life. It is clear as crystal. Also there is a tree of life for the healing of the nations. We shall see the Lord's face; because there shall be no night there. The Lord gives them light. He also says that He will come quickly and will reward every man according to his work—what he has done for others as well as for God.

Etienne de Grellet said: "I expect to pass this way but once; any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it for I shall not pass this way again."

Thank you, Lord, for giving us the courage, love, mercy, and strength we need.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Scripture Reading—Acts 23:1

YOUR CONSCIENCE

Oh child of many prayers; Oh child of baptism and covenants; Oh child of the Sabbath-school and the early Church—if you are going from glory to glory, how joyful is your lot! But if you are going on from insensibility to insensibility, if you sin more and feel less, if you are becoming harder and harder, if moral waste is more and more manifest in you, if death already begins to show itself in the supernal and superior part of your nature, if conscience ceases any more to speak and hope is gone, and faith is lost, and wreck and ruin have come upon the crystalline sphere of your being—then woe is you!

PRAYER THOUGHT

If your conscience tells you that you have lost your trust in God and turned in sinful ways, then it is time to repent and rededicate yourself wholeheartedly to the Almighty. He is waiting with opened arms.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

Scripture Reading—Romans 10:9

A LITTLE INDIAN GIRL'S PRAYER

In "Memories of Yesterdays," by Isabella M. Alden, is related a story which Mrs. Alden heard Dr. Maud Allen, a missionary to India, tell. Nonine was a girl rescued among the famine sufferers, and cared for in the mission. The little girl was very fond of jewelry, and she yielded to the temptation to take some flour from the mission's supply and trade it to a peddler for a shiny ring. Finally, she confessed with great bitterness of soul, and Mrs. Allen said: "Finally, we kneeled down to pray, and that little girl, just one year removed from the lowest depths of heathenism, prayed these words: 'Oh, dear Lord, my Jesus, do make me care much less about jewels for my body, and much more about jewels for my heart.' "

PRAYER THOUGHT

God loves all His children, whether they are rich or poor. They are precious in His sight.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Scripture Reading—Matthew 28:19

"A TOW-HEADED NORWEGIAN BOY STOOD UP"

In one of our meetings a little tow-headed Norwegian boy stood up. He could hardly speak a word of English, but he got up and came to the front. He trembled and the tears trickled down his cheeks as he said, "If I tell the world about Jesus, He will tell the Father about me." That was all he said, but in those few words he said more than all the rest of them, young and old together. They went straight down into the heart of every one present. "If I tell the world"—yes, that's what it means to confess Christ.

PRAYER THOUGHT

Jesus told His children to go into the world and teach all nations about Him. Have you told another person about your Saviour?

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 10:16

THE SECRET

Earl Granville, who was a prominent figure in British politics in the latter half of Queen Victoria's reign, once asked the Countess Cairns (wife of Earl Cairns, then Lord Chancellor), "Can you tell me how it is that no matter what business is on, no matter how he may be pressed, your husband always comes down to the House (of Lords) so quietly and so full of vigor and power?"

"Oh, yes," Lady Cairns replied, "I can tell you; he always spends a time alone with his God before he goes into the House."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Some of the most famous people of the world are not ashamed to admit their love for God and His wonders to them.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 6:14

IS GRASS GROWING ON YOUR PATH?

In some parts of Africa, where the natives live in small crowded mud huts, with little chance of privacy, the Christians choose each one a tree in the forest, where they may go to pray and be alone with God. If one becomes unfaithful and neglects his place of prayer, another says, "Brother, the grass grows on your path."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should not forget to pray to God each day. He will never forget you, because He loves you.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

Scripture Reading—Acts 20:28

LIKE A MIGHTY ARMY?

A minister asked a returned GI to speak in his pulpit. He said: " 'Like a mighty army moves the church of God.' The trouble is that about 10,000,000 men know exactly how an army moves. Suppose the army accepted the lame excuses that many of you think good enough for not attending the church parade. Imagine this: Reveille at 7 a. m.—squads on parade ground. Sergeant barks out, 'Count fours.' 'One, two, three,' four is missing. "Where's Private Smith?' 'Mr. Smith was too sleepy to get up. He said to tell you he would be with you in spirit.' 'That's fine,' said the sergeant. 'Where's Brown?' 'He's playing golf. You know how important recreation is.' 'Sure, sure,' says the sergeant cheerfully. 'Hope he has a good game. Where's Robinson?' 'He is sorry, but he is entertaining guests today. Besides, he was at drill last week.' 'Tell him he is welcome any time he finds it convenient to drop in for drill.' If any GI pulled that stuff he would get twenty days in the brig. Yet you hear stuff like that every week in church. 'Like a mighty army!' Why, if this church moved like a mighty army, a lot of you folks would be court-martialed within an hour."

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of you have sung the

song, "Onward, Christian Soldiers"? It says that Christians should perform like a mighty army moving the church of God in hope, doctrine, and charity.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

Scripture Reading—Romans 16:16

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The world's opinion of the church may not always be correct, but it is a good thing for the church to know what that opinion is. Here is what a secular paper out in Oregon has to say about the church's appeal to the physical man:

"Behold! The lodge lodgeth together—*and they eat.* The club clubbeth together—*and they eat.* The church hath a social—*and they eat.* The Young People's Society elects officers—*and they eat.* And even when the Missionary Society meeteth together—*they eat.* But this latter is in a good cause, because they eat in remembrance of the poor heathen who has not much to eat.

"Behold! Hath man's brains gone to his stomach, and doth he no longer regard intellectual dainties that thou canst no longer call an assembly or get together a quorum or even a 'baker's dozen' except that thou hold up the baker's dainties as a bait? Be it true, that the day cometh that to get a crowd at prayer meeting, the preacher must hold up a biscuit?

"Yea, verily, thou hast heard of the child races of the world. But, behold, it is nigh thee, even at the door. For as one calleth unto the child and sayeth, 'Come hither, sweet little one, and I will give thee a stick of candy,' even so must thou say to the grown-up Papa and Mamma, 'Assemble ye together and we will serve refreshments!' And lo, they come like sheep in a pen."

PRAYER THOUGHT

We should be ready to feed ourselves with spiritual food from God, as well as with physical food for the growth of our bodies.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations,* Eerdmans Press.

Coming Events . . .

December—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

December 15—Fall Semester Ends, Mount Olive College. Residence Halls reopen Monday, January 8.

December 16—Christmas Holidays, Mount Olive College

December 22—Annual Christmas Program and Party, 6 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

December 25—Christmas Day

December 25, 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

December 29—Cragmont Rally, Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Goldsboro, on Patetown Road, 7 p. m.

January 9—Central Conference Ordaining Council meets at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden at 10 a. m.

DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU DURING CHRISTMAS



Twelve Churches Represented

Central District Youth Meets

Attendance was good, twelve churches were represented, and spirits soared high when the Central District Youth Convention convened on Saturday, November 18, at Bethany Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, North Carolina.

The aim of the day was the promotion of enthusiasm among both the youth and the sponsors of the district. Those attending went to workshops on the various phases of youth work. Mrs. Dot Dail, District Youth Chairman, feels that the meeting was a success. Surely, it was.

Although Mrs. Dail worked hard, much of the credit for the day's success goes to Emerson Hobgood, David Hines, Cindy Branch, Jeff Bundy, Shelby Bradshaw, Lynn Chappelear, Erwin Hines, and Sheryl Eason.





TOP: A MOMENT OF INSPIRATION as young people and adults join in the singing of a hymn. RIGHT: Judy Dail of Bethany church has a captivated audience of eager children in one of the class sessions, as she talks to them about listening to what God's Word has to say to them.

Important Meetings Sponsored by

By the Rev. F. B. Cherry, President

THE CAROLINA BIBLE INSTITUTE

(Acting editor's note: the institute's president shares with us announcements of two important training opportunities. We urge all who can to become involved in them.)

Tarboro Bible Class

The Carolina Bible Institute began a Bible class at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Tarboro, on Tuesday night, November 21, with 41 enrolled.

The class is a study of the First Epistle of John, and consists of eight class periods of 45 minutes each. The teacher is the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry, President of the Bible Institute. The classes meet in the Sunday school building of the church.

The Rev. O. B. Jones, pastor of the Tarboro church, said that the purpose of the course is to deepen the spiritual life of Christians through a better understanding of God's Word.

Teacher Training Courses

The Carolina Bible Institute announces a series of Evangelical Teacher Training courses to begin in January designed to qualify the student to receive the Evangelical Teacher Training Association (E.T.T.A.) certificate as a Sunday school teacher within a one-year period.

To complete the requirements for the certificate, six courses must be completed. These courses consist of 12 classes of forty-five minutes each. By scheduling two courses at once, all six of the courses may be completed in a regular nine-month session of school. The first two courses will begin on Tuesday night, January 2, at 7:30. It is hoped that students will take both of the courses at once, but it is not mandatory; students may take either one of the courses offered.

The first two courses to begin in January are "Survey of the Old Testament (Law and History)" and "Teaching Techniques." The cost of these courses is $10 each. Arrangements have been made with the Evangelical Teacher Training Association to recognize certificates of credit which the student may have already received from taking the courses elsewhere.

If you are interested in these courses, please write: The Carolina Bible Institute, Box 337, Pine Level, North Carolina 27568, for further information.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all of the "Baptist" readers for their prayers during my three months of illness. I had two serious operations and have not preached since the last Sunday in August, but I plan in the near future to begin filling the pulpit again. I ask each one to pray for my complete recovery.

H. Paul Jenkins

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Mount Olive, North Carolina

ALUMNI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS



THE MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE ALUMNI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE held its quarterly meeting recently to plan events for alumni participation. Among upcoming plans will be the Annual Alumni Homecoming set for Saturday, March 21, at which the Alumnus of the Year will be honored. To date, nearly 5,000 individuals have attended Mount Olive College. Executive Committee members include, from left, Mrs. Mary Dudley of Kinston and First Free Will Baptist Church; Penny Edwards, a Free Will Baptist from Greenville; Alumni President, Eddie Morris of Raleigh and a member of Marsh Swamp church in Wilson; Carroll Turner of Mount Olive; and the Rev. Carlton Lucas, a Free Will Baptist pastor from Kinston. Not pictured are the Rev. L. B. Woodall, pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield; and the Rev. Donald Coates, pastor of Zion Free Will Baptist Church in Blakely, Georgia.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

The winners of $100 Scholarships for the dinners held in support of Mount Olive College are the following churches:

Winners of a $100 Scholarship for giving the largest amount at the dinners: Hopewell (Johnston County), Rose of Sharon (Martin County), Holly Springs (Carteret County), Smyrna (Beaufort County), Gum Swamp (Pitt County), Saint Paul (Sampson County), Mount Zion (Pamlico County), and Saint Mary's and Marsh Swamp (Wilson County).

Mount Olive College $100 Scholarships awarded to the churches giving the most money per church member included Hopewell (Johnston County), Corinth (Martin County), Davis (Carteret County), Trinity (Beaufort County), Elm Grove (Pitt County), Saint Paul (Sampson County), Mount Zion (Pamlico County) and Unity (Wilson County).

Mount Olive College $100 Scholarships awarded to the churches bringing the most high school students to the dinner included: Everett Chapel (Johnston County), Sound Side (Tyrrell County), Otway (Carteret County), Trinity (Beaufort County), Winterville (Pitt County), Robert's Grove (Sampson County), Mount Zion (Pamlico County), and Daniels Chapel (Wilson County).

ADMISSIONS OFFICERS IN HIGH SCHOOLS

Russell W. Duncan and Dianne B. Riley, Admissions Officers at Mount Olive College, will be visiting in the following high schools:

December 11— Dunn High School
Harnett Central High School
Western Harnett High School

December 12— Garner Senior High
Fuquay Senior High School
Broughton Senior High (Raleigh)

December 13— Cary Senior High
Apex Senior High
Athens Drive Senior High (Raleigh)
Ravenscroft School (Raleigh)

December 14— East Wake Senior High (Wendell)
Enloe Senior High (Raleigh)
Millbrook Senior High (Raleigh)

December 15— Zebulon Senior High
Wake Forest Senior High
Rolesville Senior High (Wake Forest)
Sanderson Senior High (Raleigh)

Free Will Baptist students attending these high schools are invited to come by for a visit and bring their friends.

NEED AN ORGAN?

The Selma Free Will Baptist Church, Selma, North Carolina, has a Hammond organ for sale. It will be ideal for a small sanctuary or one's home. It may be purchased for $500. If interested, call the Rev. Ray Wells, pastor, at 965-5777 in Selma, after 12:30 p. m.

MRS. BOWEN IN HOSPITAL

Mrs. Rose Bowen, wife of acting editor, the Rev. C. F. Bowen, has undergone major surgery at Wilson Memorial Hospital, but is much better now. Her address is Route 2, Box 393, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530. She requests your prayers.

THE REV. MELVIN K. EVERINGTON

THE HONOR-YOUR-PASTOR weekly feature is gaining favor with our churches. This week Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Cove City, North Carolina, is the second church to respond. We have others on hand which will appear in subsequent issues. If you would like to honor your pastor, send us a good black and white glossy print of him, or of him and his wife together. You may also send a picture of his home so we can run them together. Also let us have some good information on his work in your church and community, and anything else you think will be newsworthy. We will be looking for your letter.



The Rev. Melvin K. Everington

CORE CREEK HONORS PASTOR

by Members of Core Creek church

Our pastor, the Rev. Melvin K. Everington, and his good wife, Lois, came to Core Creek Free Will Baptist Church on half-time basis in the year 1975. After serving us and the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Jones County, for two years on half-time basis, he led us into a full-time ministry in the year 1977.

We are blessed to have a man of God with his ability to bring us challenging messages each Sunday.

He conducts a Bible study and prayer service each Wednesday night. The average attendance is about 30. After prayer service we have choir practice led by our pastor.

He visits the sick and shut-ins of our church and the community. Also Mr. Everington witnesses to the lost and unchurched in the community. He has the ability to communicate with people and is not a respecter of persons. Since he has been with us we have had 20 new members.

Mr. Everington and his wife are working with our youth by giving the nativity scene each Christmas, which has been a blessing to everyone who has seen it. He works with them in every way he can. He helped organize a Sunday school class for the high school graduates.

Mr. Everington attends the Eastern Conference and union meetings. He encourages our church to support all phases of our denominational work. He is a graduate of Mount Olive College and Atlantic Christian College. He teaches Bible History and Senior English at North Lenoir High School.

The Everingtons had two daughters, Sandra and Marcia. Marcia and her husband, Wade Howell, have one son, Kenneth Wade. Their home is on Route 4, Kinston. He is a farmer, and she teaches school at Contentnea. The family and friends of Sandra and Krestin have established the Sandra Everington Aldridge and Leah Krestin Memorial Fund at Mount Olive College.

His wife, Lois, is a helpmeet to him and an inspiration to us. She teaches a Sunday school class and is in charge of the little church. She is also very active in the auxiliary work.

Let Us Pray With You

Our readers will gladly share a prayer with you if you will only let them. God is pleased when His children pray one for another, even when we do not know the person for whom we pray.

Send us your request for prayer. Keep your request to a maximum of thirty or forty words. Below is one such request:

"I am facing a great problem at this time and I know there are others who need my prayers. Please pray for me as I pray for you." —A friend. Your name may be withheld if you desire.

Address your desire for prayer to: The Editor, Free Will Baptist Press, P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Eastern Conference Mission Board is in need of a minister who is in good standing with his conference to assume the responsibility of a mission that is already organized and operating in Beaufort, North Carolina. Any minister who is interested and desires more information may contact the Rev. Walter J. Sutton, Chairman; Route 2, Box 100-A; Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586; or phone collect 244-0207. Mr. Sutton will arrange a meeting any time with anyone who desires it.

NEWS NOTES

Mount Tabor AFC
Raises Money for Fellowship Hall

The Mount Tabor AFC put on a contest to help raise money for the church fellowship hall. Each child seeking to be queen or king raised money at a penny a vote. Each worked with great zeal to win. They raised $80.



Those in the contest were Matthew Phelps; Robert and Christie Comstalk; Joey Ryan; David, Carolyn, and Margaret Phelps; and Dwayne Brannon.



The winners were Dwayne Brannon, king; and Caroline Phelps, queen.

The pastor, the Rev. Ranson McAbee, expressed his thanks to those who helped to make the project a success.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please note the address change for the Rev. Cedric D. Pierce Jr. effective November 28, 1978, from Route 5, Dunn, North Carolina 28334 to the Rev. Cedric D. Pierce Jr., Route 3, Box 325, Greenville, North Carolina 27834. His new phone numbers are the following: Residence, 752-6485; office, 752-6485.

WANTS REPRESENTATIVES TO VISIT UNION

The Rev. Edgar Benton, moderator of the Second Union of the Western Conference, speaks for his district churches as he pleads for representatives of our various denominational enterprises to visit the meetings of the union.

They feel that the literature sent to their gatherings for the usual distribution, while informative, does not reach the people as personal representation would. To them, paper and people are two different things.

Messengers from the Children's Home, Home and Foreign Missions, Mount Olive College, the Carolina Bible Institute, and all other enterprises, will do well to heed their call. They want to do more for you than what they are doing, and your being there will help. So, please go meet with them next time.

NOTICE

Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, on January 9, 1979, at 10 a. m.

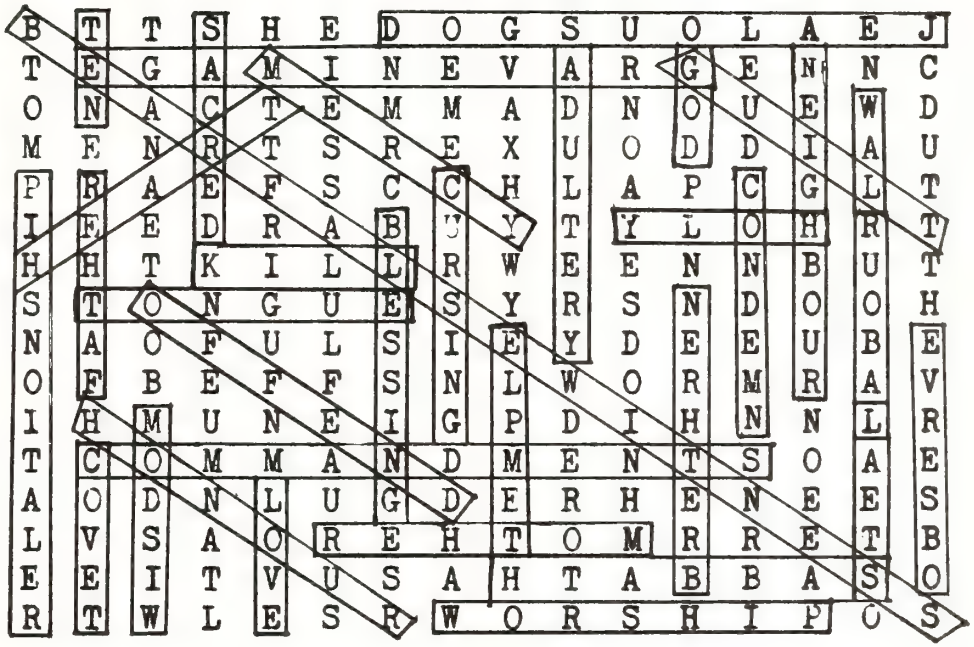
NOTICE TO CONFERENCE CLERKS

As soon as possible after your Conference meets, please send us the minutes for the YEARBOOK.

Editorial Department

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

by Joyce Tilghman



Now until Christmas . . .

20% off on a select group of Bibles including the NewInternationalVersion and the Ryrie Study Bibles.

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For December 17

GOD JUDGES AND FORGIVES

Lesson Text: Hosea 4:1-3; 11:1-4, 8, 9

Memory Verse: Hebrews 8:12

I. INTRODUCTION

Hosea lived in the northern kingdom and carried on his prophetic work from about 755 B.C. to 725 B.C. The northern kingdom, which had been separated from the southern kingdom from 931 B.C. on, had reached a peak of prosperity under Jeroboam II (789-748). This peak of prosperity was but a prelude to the disasters that followed. The reign of Jeroboam had been a time of stability and capable government. But immediately following him, the northern kingdom was plunged into a period of anarchy, marked by plots and assassinations. Its problems were compounded by the fact that the kings of Assyria were beginning to reassert their pressure upon the realm, ultimately leading to its destruction in 721 B.C.

Hosea was called of God to deliver a message of condemnation, but also a message of hope. God had entered into a covenant with His people. He promised them that He would watch over them and bless them, if they would be faithful to Him. But they had violated that trust. They had stubbornly and persistently rejected Him. And so, through Hosea, God called them to task for this rejection.

While the people still went through the forms of following Jehovah, their hearts really were in pursuit of Baal. Tragically, the priests were the leaders in this apostasy (Hosea 4:9). Apostasy inevitably led to moral decay.

Hosea dwelt at great length with Israel's sordid sins, yet he did not end with this. He concluded his message emphasizing God's mercy and endless love. In spite of the fact that Israel had fallen away, there was still hope. Shining through God's awesome threats and dire predictions of judgment was His tender mercy for Israel (Hosea 14:1-3).—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. The Old Testament prophets are usually divided into two groups: four major prophets and twelve minor prophets. They are given these designations not because of the value of their message, but because of the length of their writings. The fact that a prophet is listed as minor does not mean that his message is any less important than that of a major prophet. Our Bible text for today is taken from one of the minor prophets, but one that has an important message. He is called Hosea. He was evidently a prophet to the northern kingdom of Israel, and not to the southern kingdom of Judah.

B. The Book of Hosea is unique in at least one way. Although it is one of the three minor narrative prophets (the Book of Jonah, the Book of Habakkuk, and the Book of Hosea), Hosea is different in that it is not in itself a story, but has a story behind it. This story is so vivid that it colors all the rest of the prophecy.

C. The first section of the book is comprised of three chapters. In these chapters Hosea married a woman named Gomer, and to them three children were born. Hosea cast Gomer out as unfaithful. After she had descended to the uttermost depths of degradation, having become a slave, the property of someone else, Hosea sought her out in her degradation, bought her at the price of a slave, and restored her to his side as his wife.

D. Many Bible scholars have regarded Hosea's account of his marriage as symbolic of God's rejection and ultimate redemption of His people, Israel. At any rate, it is an interesting story, and whatever our solution to this difficulty may be, it does not change the truth of Hosea's prophecy.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. Twice in Ezekiel 18 God warned that He would judge the soul that sinned and that it would die: "... the soul that sinneth it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4); "The soul that sinneth, it shall die..." (Ezekiel 18:20).

B. But even before sin came into the world, God warned Adam and Eve that if they disobeyed Him by eating from the tree forbidden to them, they would surely die (see Genesis 2:17). This not only meant that they would in time die physically, but also that they would die spiritually, even as they sinned.

C. From these and related Scriptures we conclude that God does judge the sinning soul. If that soul does not repent and receive Christ as Saviour, it shall surely die and be cast away from God and Heaven.

D. These are harsh thoughts and if Christ had not died on the Cross they would leave us destitute, hopelessly condemned before God. For, "all have sinned and come short of the glory of the God," as Paul wrote to the Romans (see 3:23).

E. God judges sin and the sinner, and condemns the sinner to death; but He also forgives sin and the sinner, when Christ's death on the Cross is substituted, by the sinner's faith, for his own death. The cardinal facts show that our God is a just God, who will not condone sin, but also a compassionate God, with mercy for all who trust in Him and obey His will. This is a cause for great rejoicing.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

God's Love—"God's love is not a general philosophic attitude. It is a personal affection. Someone said of Henry Ward Beecher, a great preacher of another generation, that he loved everybody so much that he loved nobody very much. Some people think about God like that. It is not true of God that He loves everybody in such a general way that He does not love you and me in a personal way. He knows your name. He knows the street upon which you live. He knows the problems that beset you. He knows the sins that you have turned to when the strength of life is gone. His love bespeaks a personal relationship."—Bishop Arthur J. Moore

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**



story corner

ABRAHAM'S OBEDIENCE TO GOD

ABRAHAM and his wife, Sarah, were getting to be old. They had no children and were very lonely. God had appeared to Abraham, many years ago, and told him that his children would be so numerous they would be as the grains of the sand. Of course, Abraham had believed God, but he and Sarah were getting to be so old they were beginning to wonder.

Then, one day, a wonderful thing happened. God did send them a baby. It was a boy named Isaac. Can you imagine how happy the parents must have been? They had been lonely for many years! Now God has sent them a happy baby boy.

Because he was their only son, Isaac was loved by the parents very much. They did everything they could to make him happy. They also taught him that he must love God; and, more than anything else in the world, he must obey God. It did not matter what God wanted him to do, he must do it without questioning.

One day, when Isaac was still a boy, God spoke to Abraham. "Abraham," He called.

Abraham looked into the heavens and answered, "Behold, here I am."

God's voice boomed from the heavens, "Take now, your son, Isaac, whom you love so dearly, and go into the land of Moriah and offer him as a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will show to you."

This was a hard thing for Abraham to understand. God had given him a son to love. He had waited so long, so many years, for this son! Now God wanted him to burn the boy as a sacrifice! It was perhaps the hardest thing Abraham ever had to do. He knew, however, that he must obey God, even if it meant giving up his only son.

Early in the morning of the next day, Abraham arose and saddled the donkeys. He and Isaac gathered the things they would need for the long journey and the sacrifice; then they started out on the long, long journey.

When they had ridden for three days, Abraham saw the mountains God had mentioned. "Isaac, my son. We will climb this mountain there and we will offer a sacrifice for God. We will worship Him."

"But, Father, where is the lamb for the offering? Surely we cannot worship God without a lamb for the sacrifice."

Sadly Abraham looked at his son; he could not bear to tell him he was to be the sacrifice. Instead, he said, "God will provide for Himself a lamb for the offering."

Together they climbed the mountain; and when they had reached the top, they gathered wood and stones for the altar and sacrificial fire.

They took the stones and built an altar and laid the wood on the top.

Then Abraham, with tears in his eyes, tied Isaac to the altar. He was about to plunge the knife into Isaac to kill him when he heard an angel speak from the heavens. The angel said, "Abraham, Abraham."

Thankfully Abraham held back the knife. To delay the act only for a minute would be a blessing to him. His son would live for a moment longer. He looked into the heavens and said, "Here am I."

The angel said, "Do not lay a hand on the boy. Neither do you anything to him: for now I know that you fear God, because you did not hold back even your only son from Him."

Abraham was so happy when he heard the voice of the angel! Quickly he untied Isaac. I imagine they put their arms around each other and cried for joy. Then he heard a noise behind them. They turned around to look. There in the bushes was a ram, caught by the horns. Abraham and Isaac took the ram and offered it as a sacrifice to God.

Then Abraham heard the voice of the angel for the second time, "Because you have been obedient to the Lord, even to the giving of your son, I will bless you and the world through your son. Through you and your children and your children's children shall the world be blessed."

Abraham loved God and feared Him enough to sacrifice his only son. God loved you and me enough to sacrifice His only Son for us. Can you realize how unhappy it must have made God to look down and see His only Son die, hanging on the Cross? He did it just for you and me. Just as Abraham sacrificed the ram in the place of his son, God has sacrificed Jesus in our place. He did it so that we might live with Him forever in Heaven. But, in order for us to claim this reward, we must have accepted Christ as the sacrifice for us. We must show how much we love Christ for dying for us. We must obey Him in everything He wants us to do. We must ask Him to guide us and tell us what He wants us to do. Then we must do it without asking a question. Often you ask your parents, "Why?" when they ask you to do something. We must not ask Christ why. We must do as He asks. If we are obedient to Him, we may claim that He died in our place, and we can claim the reward in Heaven.—**The Story Hour (F.W.B.)**

LBD More Important Than 912 Corpses in Guyana

(Acting editor's note.—To give you some idea of how many have lost their sense of real values, and how the liquor by the drink craze has distorted the concept of what is important in news as compared to other matters, we offer you the following special editorial comments by Marse Grant as found in the Biblical Recorder, the official weekly of the Baptist State Convention.)

News media coverage of the first days of liquor by the drink in North Carolina was sickening and childish.

A good example of how some of the media were carried away by the event was shown in **The Charlotte Observer** November 21 and 22. Did the terrible tragedy in Guyana which eventually took nine hundred and twelve lives take the top headlines?

No, it was liquor by the drink on both days, with a color picture of the "historic" event. The Guyana story rated a two-column headline in the lefthand corner of the page on the second day. LBD had an eight column banner headline for the second day in a row.

It will be interesting to see how history students of the future will rate these events as they were (mis)handled by the state's biggest paper.

There were other extravagances. One drinker declared flatly, "It's history right there along with George Washington crossing the Delaware." How foolish some people can be when they're transferred to another world by alcohol.

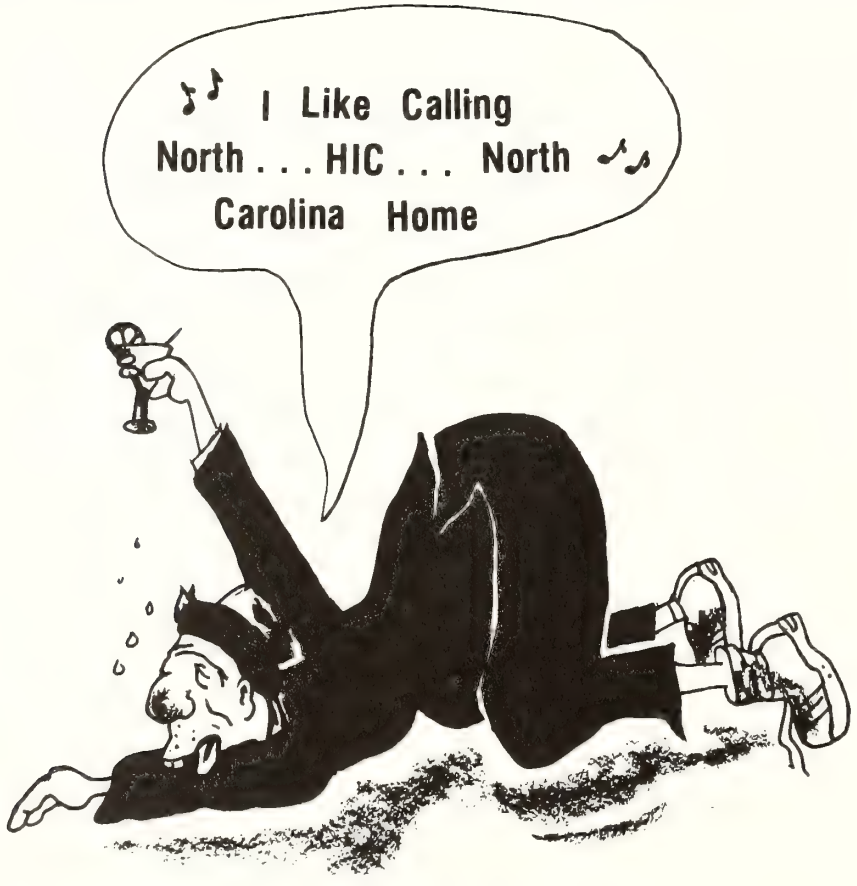
Lost down in the story (if the statement was run at all by a paper) was this sobering remark by Coy Privette:

"It is a sad day for North Carolina that we have allowed the profiteers to convince us that the merchandising of liquor is the key to economic development and a sociable, sophisticated society. Instead, we should be seeking to promote ideals that would result in sound moral principles, clarity of minds, purity of bodies, and responsible social actions."

Reduced Consumption?

And this is another footnote for legislators who argued with a straight face that LBD would reduce consumption:

On the first day in Charlotte, eight trucks rushed several thousand cases of liquor worth nearly $200,000 to 96 restaurants and lounges which have received permits. All the time, some people were foolish enough to believe the argument of these legislators as they connived and traded votes to put something off on the people of North Carolina that they had turned down less than five years ago by 70 percent. This is one reason I'm still having trouble getting my confidence in state government restored.



(Adapted and sketched by Janie Sowers)

A Clergyman Spoke In Favor of Drink

A number of years ago at a temperance meeting, a certain clergyman spoke in favor of wine as a drink, and quite to his own satisfaction demonstrated that its use was gentlemanly, healthful, and Scriptural. At the close of his speech, an elderly gentleman arose and asked permission to say a few words.

"A young friend of mine," he said, "who had long been intemperate, was at length prevailed upon, to the great joy of his friends, to take the pledge of entire abstinence from all that could intoxicate. He kept the pledge faithfully for some time, struggling fearfully with his habit, till one evening in a social party glasses of wine were handed around. They came to a clergyman present, who took a glass, saying a few words of vindication of the practice. 'Well,' thought the young man, 'if a clergyman can take wine and justify it so well, why not I?' So he took a glass. It instantly rekindled his

slumbering appetite and, after a downward course, he died of delirium tremens—died a raving madman.''

The old man paused and was just able to add: ''That young man was my son, and that clergyman was the Reverend Doctor who has just addressed this assembly.''

—Pillar of Fire

HE'S A CHANGED MAN

Remember Eldridge Cleaver?

A decade ago his name was synonymous with rebellion, hatred, public anger. He gave up his citizenship in the United States to go to Cuba.

However, recently, the World Home Bible League was requested to send 300 King James Bibles to the Eldridge Cleaver Crusades in San Francisco.

His letter began with, ''Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour,'' and ended with, ''Please remember us in your prayers as we go forward in the work the Lord has laid upon us.''

Remember Eldridge Cleaver? What changed him?

THOSE KIDS OF OURS

by Dorsey L. Crow
''More Blessed to Give''

This story is true. It happened at Christmas to a man who was doing what his mother had taught him.

A silver-haired, well-dressed man, wearing a fur coat and suede gloves approached several people who were waiting for a bus at a street corner in New York City. Speaking softly he said, ''I need 50 cents if anyone here can possibly spare it.''

Nobody responded except a young man who said, ''Man, you don't look like you need 50 cents.''

In the crowd was a black man, Harold Brown, 46, supervisor of messengers for a New York law firm. Handing the man two quarters Harold said, ''Sir, here's 50 cents.''

The silver-haired man smiled and said, ''Thanks, but I don't really need your money. I just wanted to find out if anyone had the Christmas spirit, and I see you do.''

Handing Harold Brown a crisp $100 bill, the man said, ''This is for you. Take it, it's real money. Have a merry Christmas!''

As Harold took the money the man turned and walked a few steps down the street to his chauffeured limousine and rode away.

Harold Brown said, ''My mother taught me 'tis better to give than to receive. I always give to the blind and the panhandlers when I go out to lunch. I can sure use this $100. I have children,'' he said.

Doing what his mother taught him turned out to be a blessing for Harold Brown for she taught him the promise of Jesus, ''It is more blessed to give than to receive'' (Acts 20:35).

There are many such mothers in America, but we don't hear much about them. There are many such Harold Browns, but few of them ever make the headlines. Such people as these are the silent power in our country that keeps the home fires burning with love. They keep church doors open and Sunday schools growing.

O Lord, give us more mothers and sons like the Browns in 1979.

—From **Pulpit Helps**, published by AMG International, Chattanooga, Tennessee

BIBLES IN SPAIN

BARCELONA, SPAIN—After some forty years of restricting the distribution of the Bible by evangelicals, the Spanish government is now issuing permits to evangelical Christians for the distribution of Bibles and New Testaments in prisons and hospitals.

It takes a long time sometimes, but God always gets there!

Fillers for Your Bulletins

Pastors (or church secretaries) are always looking for fresh, striking fillers for their weekly bulletins. Here are some we think you will like. They are selected from various sources.

If like the shepherds, you have heard and seen, then like the shepherds, go and tell.

He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree.

Life is tragic for the person who has plenty to live on, but nothing to live for.

Many people give until it hurts. The trouble is that it starts to hurt just as soon as they start to give!

I know a lot of people who must dislike television the way they sit up all night and glare at it.

If you must speak your mind, then mind how you speak.

God is a substitute for everything, but nothing is a substitute for God.

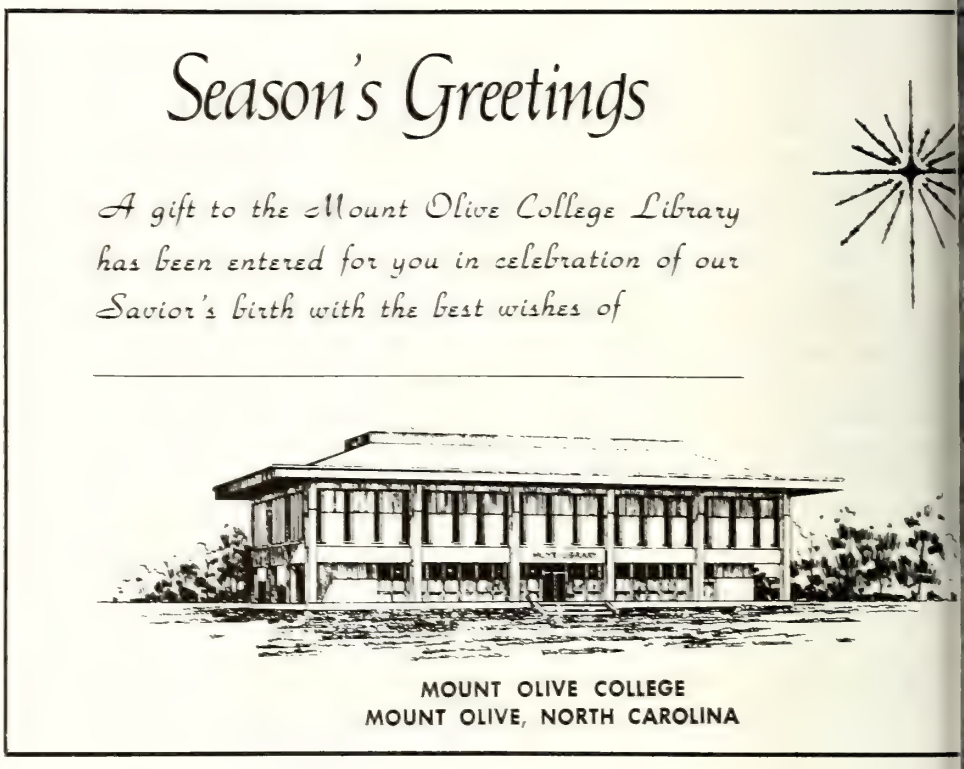
If you want to keep out of debt, you must earn more than you yearn.

Christmas Ideas

Give a lasting and meaningful gift this Christmas

Mount Olive College will send this attractive Christmas acknowledgement to the person or persons you choose to honor this Christmas with a gift to Moye Library at Mount Olive College.

The name of each person honored by a gift will be placed in a library book with your name as the donor.



CHRISTMAS CARDS NOW AVAILABLE—Christmas cards, featuring the sketch of Moye Library, shown above, with the star of Bethlehem and a cherry red Season's Greetings, are now on sale at the Mount Olive College Bookstore for $2.60 per 25 cards and envelopes. Card opens for signature or a short Christmas note.

(Detach and mail with check to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, N.C. 28365)

Please place a book in Moye Library as a Christmas gift honoring:

_____
(Name)

_____
(Street or P. O. Box)

_____
(City) (State) (Zip)

Please sign gift card with the name(s) of:

_____
(Name (s)

_____
(Street or P. O. Box)

_____
(City) (State) (Zip)

ALSO send me _____ package(s) of 25 cards and envelopes featuring the picture of Moye Library on front. Enclosed is a check for _____ at $2.60 per package.



THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

TRUE CHRISTIANS WHO ARE "DREAMING OF A RIGHT CHRISTMAS" WILL NOT HAVE THAT BOTTLE IN IT—WHITE CHRISTMAS OR NOT, DO HAVE A RIGHT ONE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial . . .



Photo by Harold M. Lambert

the Rev. C. F. Bowen

TO WHOM ARE WE GIVING GOD'S MONEY?

In my opinion the mass murder-suicide of more than 900 persons in Guyana, including the self-inflicted death of the satanic leader of The People's Temple, Jim Jones, was perhaps the most gruesome event of this decade.

Instead of dealing this week with the possible reasons back of this bloody debacle, something needs to be said regarding the money given to religious cults of this kind and to individuals more subtle than these strongly organized bodies. We are talking about money which belongs to God.

Reliable reports show that more than $12 million was amassed by Jones, in addition to more than $65,000 a month he received from Social Security checks belonging to many of his followers.

It is hard to understand how people could be so gullible in parting with their money so easily. This has been one of the most dastardly con tricks we have ever heard of.

But it has not been the only one.

Space will not permit a long list of religious charlatans and swindlers working both sides of the street all around us, but at least a few will give you some idea of what we mean.

One is the Worldwide Church of God under the leadership of the false prophet Herbert W. Armstrong and his glib son, Garner Ted (now deposed). Armstrong will take in an estimated $75 million this year.

Another is the Unification Church headed by the Korean Sun Myung Moon. His fabulously rich organization is supported mainly by youthful followers selling do-dads in shopping centers and other places of business—all proceeds going to the elaborate, tax-free, estates of Moon, both here and in Europe.

Still others are the numerous radio ''evangelists'' in the ''healing'' ministries. They offer ''sanctified soap,'' so-called healing cloths, and other ridiculous items—free if you don't have the money, but more readily sent for a $20 bill, or maybe $10, with a promise of more later.

Perhaps Baptist State Convention President, Mark Corts, sums it up best: ''. . . drug abuses, sexual abuses, authority abuses, come as a result of lack of body discipline . . . It should make us think twice about sending our money to some far-off point for which we have no discipline or control . . . If the dead could speak, we believe some of the 912 who sacrificed themselves in Guyana would have a message for anyone considering a move which led to this mass suicide . . . When will people learn that all kinds of satanic acts are carried out under the guise of religion?''

When will we learn, also, that God's money belongs to Him and that it is the church to which you belong that should receive it for the glory of God?

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DECEMBER 13, 1978

Volume 93 Number 49

The Rev. C. F. Bowen, Acting Editor

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

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Ten Things I Liked About the Rev. L. E. Ballard

by the Rev. Willis Wilson

(EDITOR'S NOTE: We asked the Rev. Willis Wilson, long-time friend of "Pa" Ballard and one who knew him so well, to write this article.)

1. **I liked his testimony.**

He was never ashamed to tell you that he loved Christ and served Him diligently.

2. **I liked what he stood for.**

He stood for the things that were good for mankind, for high moral standards, and for the inspired word uncompromisingly.

3. **I liked the fact that he answered God's call to preach.**

Many have been called and have refused to answer, but "Pa" said, "Lord, I'll do what I can in my own feeble way."

4. **I liked what he did for the Sunday schools of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists.**

He traveled many miles with much less pay than many of us would travel for and gave many hours in order that people might learn new ideas and have better Sunday schools.



Willis Wilson

He used equipment that many of our younger men would not have used and did a grand job with what he had.

5. **I liked what he did for Cragmont Assembly.**

"Pa" loved Cragmont. He gave much time and effort to the developing of Cragmont. He and "Ma" would go up there and through their efforts and "pinching" pennies, we made it through season by season.

This preacher was to have had a part in "Pa"'s funeral but was called to Cragmont on urgent business on behalf of Cragmont. He felt that "Pa" would say, "Go ahead, son, the work at Cragmont must go on."

6. **I liked what he did for other denominational enterprises.**

"Pa" was just as much concerned for other enterprises and gave much to see that they would be what they ought to be.

7. **I liked his wife.**

"Who can find a virtuous woman, for her price is far above rubies."

"Pa" found in Mrs. Ballard a woman who loved the ministry, loved the work of the church, and was deeply concerned with every phase of the work.

8. **I liked the way he took his sickness.**

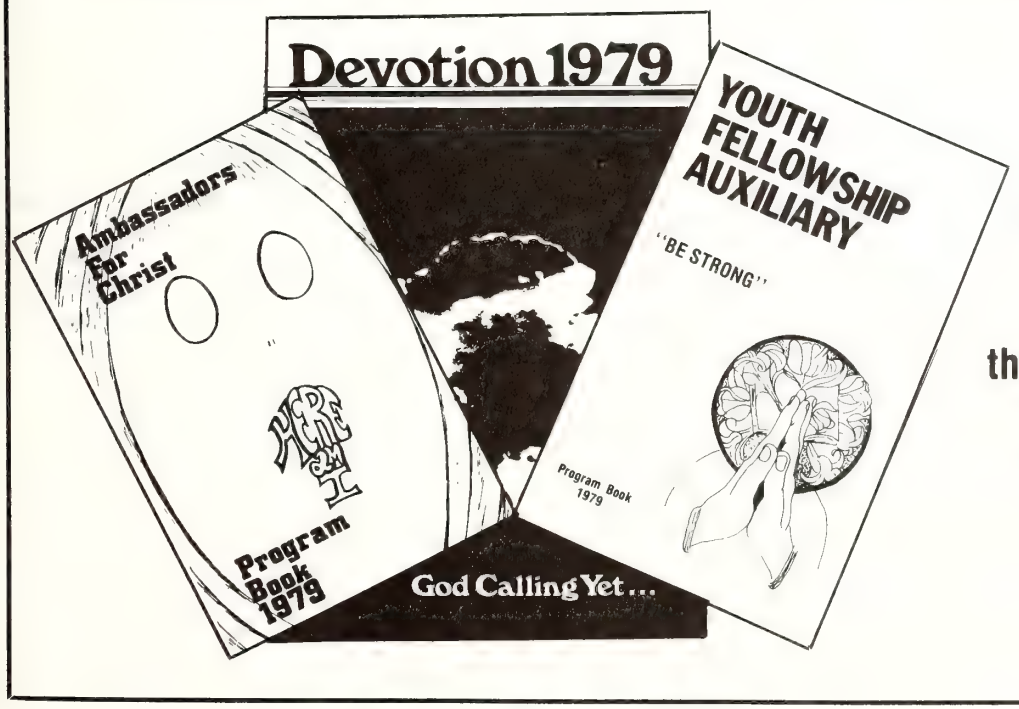
Someone said that a man shows his true colors when he is sick or when he is dying. "Pa" took it like a Christian, longing to go to be with the Lord.

9. **I liked the fact that even in his later years, he still identified with the youth of our state.**

He wanted us to have a new building at Cragmont so badly that he wrote an article thinking that if people who knew him and loved him could see that he was for progress that it would help and it did help. He convinced some of our older, more sentimental people, that we needed to tear the old building down and begin anew.

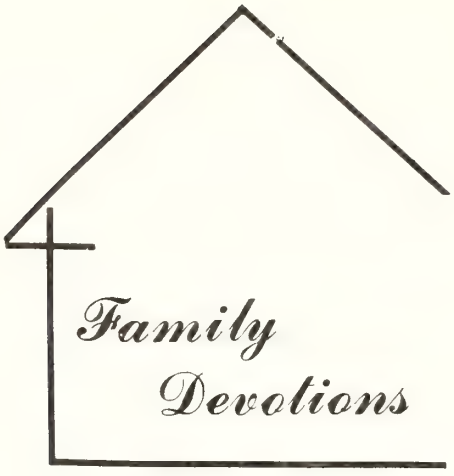
10. **I liked the fact that he was faithful to the end.**

Somehow, I believe that God has spoken to the Rev. L. E. Ballard and said, "Thou hast been faithful over a few things, my son, now, enter into eternal rest and receive your reward!"



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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

Scripture Reading—Matthew 16:18

NO SUBSTITUTES FOR CHURCH

Harmon B., aged 45, is a successful business executive.

"Dr. Crane, you've put me in a tough spot," he smilingly informed me, as I was having luncheon at his Kiwanis club.

"You have urged parents to set a good example before their children even as regards going to church or Sunday school with them.

"Well, I have two youngsters, now in high school, but Sunday is about my only time to fish or play golf. Isn't it as inspiring to commune with God in the woods as in a church auditorium?"

It is possible to commune with God in the outdoors, but not very likely if you hold a golf club or fishpole in your hand. And Thoreau's fallacy about communing with Divinity on a hike through the woods is chiefly rationalization.

Moreover, no collection plate is passed when you are on the hike, nor do you give as well as receive the reciprocal stimulation of worshiping with other people.

And you aren't so likely to teach your children unselfishness and moral lessons by a Sunday stroll.

Civilized Americans try to take a bath at least once a week, and they feel much refreshed afterwards.

But just as this regular cleansing of the body becomes a worthwhile habit, and even makes us feel uncomfortable if we fail to carry it out, so we can learn the habit of spiritual refreshment by regular attendance at church.

The inspiration of music, plus the tonic of a good sermon, as well as the social stimulation of seeing our friends in similar attendance at a place of worship, serve as a refreshing bath for the soul.

Everybody would profit from at least one such soul cleansing per week. It is far more relaxing on the blood pressure than half a day on the golf links.

A person who thus sets a good positive example before his children and possibly many wavering neighbors or associates feels happy in knowing that he has helped influence others who are looking for strong leadership.

Millions of neurotics and hypochondriacs are wasting money and time, as well as shortening their lives by fear and its resulting high blood pressure, just because they don't form the habit of leaning upon God.

PRAYER THOUGHT

How many of you have sung the song, "Learning to Lean on Jesus"? It is a beautiful song with a great deal of meaning which is very true to life.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

Scripture Reading—Acts 20:28

A STRONG CONGREGATION

"Is it a strong congregation?"

"Yes," was the reply.

"How many members are there?"

"Thirty."

"Thirty! Are they so wealthy?"

"No, many of them are poor."

"How, then, can you say it is a strong church?"

"Because they are earnest, devoted, at peace, loving each other, following the Word of God in all things, instant in prayer, and striving together to do the Lord's work. Such a congregation is strong, whether composed of thirty or three hundred members."

PRAYER THOUGHT

God has said that where two or three people are gathered in His name that there He shall be; therefore, it doesn't matter whether the congregation be thirty or three hundred.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Scripture Reading—Acts 7:38

WHAT THE CHURCH IS FOR

The church is not a gallery for the exhibition of eminent Christians but a school for the education of imperfect ones, a nursery for the care of weak ones, a hospital for the healing of those who need assiduous care.

PRAYER THOUGHT

The church is open for all ages, for the rich as well as the poor. It is open for all people.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Scripture Reading—1 Thessalonians 2:14

BACK SEAT PROBLEM

"I wonder," said good parson Jones
With a little troubled frown,
If there is any way to get
You folks seated farther down?

You see I have to talk across
So many empty pews,
Before my voice can reach the back,
I fear my point you lose.

And then I feel so lonesome,
Way up here—you clear back there,
It's hard to feel you're with me
When I come to God in prayer.

I wonder if you folks are scared
Of what I'm going to preach
That you hurry so to park
In the farthest seat?

Or do you fear the church some day
Will suddenly catch afire?
Or do you want to slip out quick
If of my subject you tire?

I wish you'd come up closer
So I wouldn't have to shout—
If you don't I'm going to have
Those back-seats taken out!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Are you one of those back seat persons? Do you hear all that the preacher is telling you about the love of God? or do you need a hearing aid? Then, maybe you need to move your seat near to the front of the church, so you can understand all that is said.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 10:16

SAVING TIME BY PRAYING

When Edward Payson was a student at college he found himself overtaxed with study and preparation for examinations. There was little or no time for private prayer. But aware

of the lack in his spiritual life, he deliberately took time that seemed rightfully to belong to other things, and devoted it to communion with God. His diary discloses the fact that when he did so, he did more in his studies in a single week *after he had spent time with God in prayer than he had accomplished in twelve months before.*

PRAYER THOUGHT

We have all heard the saying that prayer changes things. Try it and see!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Scripture Reading—Romans 10:9

NOT UNTIL THE BLIGHT WAS REMOVED

A young missionary wrote to the Rev. W. H. Aldis of England: "When I was before the candidates' committee, I told a lie. I was so anxious to get to the mission field; and I feared if I answered that question as I ought to have answered it. I would never have gotten there, so I said what was not true. Ever since I arrived in this land where I am seeking to witness for God, that lie has been like a blight upon me, a blight as I try to learn the language, as I commence learning my ministry, and every time I kneel to pray, the Lord puts His finger on that lie which I told. At last, in desperation, I am writing to you, as I owe it to you. I must get right." He added, "From the very moment I determined by God's grace to write the letter, everything has changed, and God is beginning to use me, and I know that souls are going to be saved."

PRAYER THOUGHT

It is said that confession of the soul is good for the heart of a person. God hears you.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 13:14

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

A young man came to London bearing a letter of introduction to Baron Rothschild with the request that he would give him employment. The great banker received him warmly, but expressed his regret that he had no position for him. As the young man was going, the baron put on his hat and walked along with him, pointing out the various objects of interest. Passing the bank, the rich man went in to transact some business. Afterward the young man applied at that very bank for work, and was asked, "Are you not the young man who was walking with the baron this morning? Well, you were in good company; and since we need a young man, we will consider this a sufficient recommendation." To walk with God is after all a good recommendation. And when men of the world have need of a Christian's services in sickness or death, they will be likely to consider such a fact as a high recommendation.

PRAYER THOUGHT

When we walk with the Lord, we walk with a great person—the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Devotions used by permission, *Knight's Master Book of New Illustrations*, Eerdmans Press.



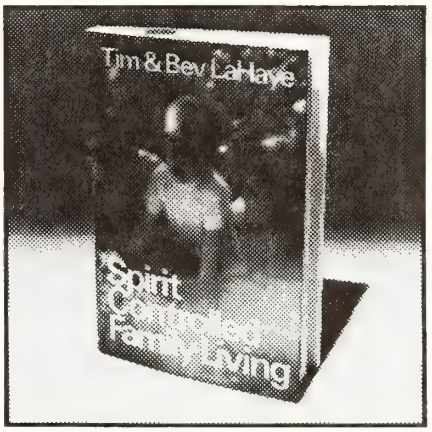
Some homes are the very picture of peace, tranquility, and perfect happiness. Unfortunately, it's usually someone else's home. Some other family. On some other planet, maybe.

But the family is God's own institution, so it should operate according to His design. Family life should be fulfilling, satisfying, and rewarding to everyone.

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St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For December 24

THE SOVEREIGN GOD DWELLS WITH US

Lesson Text: John 1:1-5, 14-18
Memory Verse: Matthew 1:23

I. INTRODUCTION

In the first lesson this quarter we saw that God revealed Himself through the prophets and finally through His Son. The second lesson stressed how God mediated His message through the Scriptures. The third lesson depicted God in the dual role of Judge and Saviour. Now in this lesson we see Him through His Son taking His place as a man among men, a servant limited and suffering hunger, pain, and humiliation.

This is the Christmas season, and the thoughts of all persons in Christendom naturally turn to Christ's coming into the world. Normally we think of the accounts in Matthew and Luke in connection with the birth of Christ. The text for our lesson, however, is taken from the first chapter of John's Gospel. Whereas Matthew and Luke begin their accounts with the events surrounding the birth of the Saviour, John anchors his Gospel in eternity. It begins before time—"In the beginning." The first eighteen verses of the Gospel of John are sometimes referred to as the prologue to the Gospel. Here we see the Word in His relationship with God, and here in capsule form we see His entrance into the world and the world's acceptance and rejection of Him.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. This is the Christmas lesson. This is a time for rejoicing and worshiping God. It never fails at this time of the year that some kill-joys appear and begin to talk about the calendar change and how Christmas has been commercialized and tell us that we should not celebrate Christmas at all. Granted that the calendar has been changed and that Christmas has been commercialized. But no one can do away with the fact that Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, did come to this earth and take upon Himself human flesh. Isn't this reason enough to rejoice?

B. Our lesson points up the pre-existence of Jesus Christ. He did not begin at the time of His birth in Bethlehem. It was there that He took upon Himself human flesh and became a man. He existed from all eternity with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit. There never was a time that He did not exist and there will never be a time that He will not exist.

C. John the Baptist came as a witness to the Incarnation. John was a great man. He was willing to gather to himself a great crowd and then at the right moment withdraw and point them to another, the Lord Jesus Christ. It takes a special kind of person to be willing to do this. This was John's purpose in life and he fulfilled that purpose. Are you fulfilling God's purpose in life for you?

D. Jesus Christ was God and He became a man. This does not mean that He ceased to be God. It is beyond our comprehension to understand how He could be completely man and completely God at the same time, but this is the clear teaching of God's Word. It is very important that we accept this dual nature of Jesus Christ . Both His humanity and His deity are important to our salvation.

E. The method that God used when He came to earth to take upon Himself human flesh was virgin birth. This is important because it means that Christ did not inherit the fallen nature of Adam; therefore, He was without sin. It is also important because it means that the Old Testament prophecies are true. And it is important because it means that He is able to and willing to be our Saviour. Let's rejoice in that fact this Christmas season.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. How well have you prepared for Christmas? What plans have you made for this great day? Nothing would give more Christian significance to this day than to reflect on this truth: Jesus was born—God is with us!

B. Our text tells us a marvelous story that may well thrill our souls. God's only Son became flesh—which is what we mean by the Incarnation of Jesus Christ—but He did not cease to be divine. Though He laid aside a part of His glory during His earthly life, yet He still had a glory such as the world had never known.

C. John was one of those who saw Jesus when He was transfigured so that His countenance and garments shone as the sun. Luke says that the three disciples (Peter, James, and John) "saw his glory." John could never forget that scene; neither could he ever forget that this One who came was God in the flesh. As long as he lived, John knew that God had been with him and the others who had walked with Jesus. Thus, he spoke of the Incarnation with truth and authority.

D. Christ was called Emmanuel, which means "God with us," so when we speak of Jesus as Emmanuel we are reaffirming that He was God in the flesh. He is still with us today—this Christmas Eve—in the form of the Holy Spirit . Let this truth help you make the most of this Christmas Day.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

Three Attitudes Toward the Birth of Jesus—There are three attitudes that men show toward the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ to this earth. Every man that hears the story of Jesus and His coming to earth has one of these attitudes. Some are **indifferent** and turn away, perhaps with a sneer of superiority. Some seem to **resent** the whole idea of God's becoming man. They get angry and seek to destroy the influence of Christ in the world. Finally, there are those who **love Him** and appreciate the fact that He took upon Himself human flesh and lived on earth among men. How do you feel about Jesus' becoming man and living here on the earth among men?—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Mount Olive, North Carolina

SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS JANUARY 10

The spring semester classes will begin Wednesday, January 10, following the opening of residence halls on January 8. Registration begins January 9.

Night classes will begin Monday, January 15. Course offerings include: "The Free Will Baptist Church," "Microbiology" (class or lab) and "Drama" to be held on Monday nights.

Tuesday night classes include "English Composition," "Introduction to Business" and "Introduction to Christian Education."

Wednesday night will include the continuation of "Microbiology" with either class or lab.

For more information contact The Admissions Office, Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; (919) 658-2502.

Dean Leaving

Dr. Wayne H. Wiley, dean of Mount Olive College, has submitted his resignation to become effective in January.

"I have learned much from my experience at Mount Olive College," he declared. "My wish for the future is that the College will attain its noble and worthwhile aims."

"We regret to lose the services of Dr. Wiley," President W. Burkette Raper declared. "He has provided good and effective leadership for the academic program of the College and has earned the confidence and respect both of the faculty and other personnel. All of us sincerely wish for him the very best in his next position."

In an open letter to the students, Dr. Wiley stated that "At this time I must decline to say what my exact plans are, though I am looking forward to continuing my work in education in another setting." Prior to coming to Mount Olive College in the summer of 1976, Dr. Wiley was associate professor of philosophy at Madison College in Virginia from 1973-1976. Other college positions have included graduate lecturer at the University of Virginia from 1970-1973 and assistant professor of philosophy and religion at Stratford College in Virginia from 1967-1969.

Founder's Day



THE REV. DAVID CHARLES HANSLEY, left, president of the North Carolina State Convention of Free Will Baptists, spoke at the 27th annual Founder's day celebration at Mount Olive College, held recently. Hansley, an MOC alumnus and former employee at the college, praised the Free Will Baptist denomination for the foresight and support of beginning a college. Standing with Hansley is his wife, Sylvia, and his father, the Rev. David W. Hansley of La Grange, North Carolina, a college founder and the first chairman of the board of trustees.

Spring Schedule for Paul Palmer Courses

The Paul Palmer Institute of Christian Studies, an outreach of Mount Olive College, will offer an eight-week course schedule at Mount Olive College on Monday nights and at Rains Cross Roads Free Will Baptist Church in Johnston County, North Carolina, on Tuesday nights for the spring semester, 1979.

Paul Palmer courses held on the Mount Olive College campus begin Monday, January 15, and include: "New Testament" taught by Dr. Michael Pelt at 7 p. m., and "Church History II" taught by the Rev. Sheldon Howard at 8:30 p.m.

Paul Palmer courses to be held at the Rains Cross Roads church near Kenly begin Tuesday, January 16, with "Principles of Christian Education" taught by the Rev. Edmundo Gonzalez at 7 p. m., and "Survey of the Old Testament" taught by the Rev. DeWayne Eakes at 8:30 p. m.

Courses are offered for non-credit at a cost of $10 per courses. Courses taken to be applied toward either a Basic or an Advanced Curriculum Certificate will cost $20 each.

Mr. Gonzalez received his Master of Religious Education degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey. He is pastor of Rains Cross Roads church.

Mr. Eakes is pastor of Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church in Lucama, North Carolina, and a Mount Olive graduate and Atlantic Christian College graduate. He earned his Master of Divinity degree from Southeastern Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

For more information concerning the Paul Palmer Institute contact Frank Harrison, director at Mount Olive College, Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365; (919) 658-2502 (office), or 658-9363 (home).

BLOODY MARYS, BLOODY BILLS

There's rejoicing by the pro-liquor forces in Mecklenburg—and a lot more rejoicing by Satan—over the "first bloody Mary" consumed since the LBD referendum was passed. How many more bloody Marys and bloody Bills will be strewn along the highways of North Carolina as a result of this "historic" occasion?

—Mrs. Josie Montgomery

Brings Total to Over One Million Dollars Since 1963

FREE WILL BAPTISTS RAISE $118,273 IN DINNERS

A total of $118,273 was raised by the efforts of Free Will Baptists during the seventeen dinners held in support of Mount Olive College this fall.

"The over $118,000 raised during the fall dinners brings the total to over $1 million raised since the College dinners began in 1963." remarked Jean Ackiss, cochairman of the dinners.

In the absence of Harold Herring, Director of Development, who is on a leave of absence from the College, the annual dinner program was coordinated by Mrs. Ackiss and the Rev. David Charles Hansley, pastor of Daniels Chapel church in Wilson and recently elected President of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

Record Increases Noted

Wayne County contributed a record increase over last year's total with almost $4,000 difference. Other noteworthy increases included the Sampson, Harnett and Cumberland Counties Dinner and Pamlico County Dinner, both showing increases of over $1,500 each. Carteret and Beaufort Counties increased their giving by over $1,000 each and Duplin County and Johnston-Wake Counties Dinners increased by over $1,000 each.

The following comparative report illustrates the 1977 and 1978 dinner totals. Every college dinner held increased over the 1977 gifts. Those counties marked by an asterisk (*) gave the most ever given at the dinner.

The increased interest shown for Mount Olive College was illustrated by the increased attendance of 370 persons making a total of 4,144 in attendance at the 1978 dinners.

	1977	1978
*Beaufort County	$ 3,472.59	$ 4,783.15
*Carteret County	4,020.00	5,435.00
*Craven County	5,165.48	5,891.50
*Duplin County	7,581.52	8,773.63
*Edgecombe-Halifax	2,300.03	3,273.00
Greene County	5,145.39	6,848.15
*Johnston-Wake Counties	15,384.50	16,470.94
Jones County	2,313.00	2,522.00
*Lenoir County	4,648.00	5,317.00
*Nash County	2,578.65	2,618.28
Onslow-New Hanover	536.27	653.00
*Pamlico County	6,156.50	7,677.00
Pitt County	11,071.61	11,174.87
*Sampson, Harnett, and Cumberland Counties	6,408.00	8,001.26
*Washington, Martin, Tyrrell, Pasquotank and Chowan Counties	3,994.00	4,215.75
*Wayne County	9,679.81	13,396.25
*Wilson County	11,210.48	11,217.50

Comes Home Filled with Enthusiasm

Wilson Views Cragmont Buildings

The Rev. Willis Wilson, President of the Board of Directors of Cragmont Assembly, made a business trip to Cragmont recently and, to put it mildly, was jumping with enthusiasm at what he saw there. The editorial offices could hardly contain him!

We asked him to tell us about it, that his abounding ecstasy might be tempered. This is what he told, as he had given it to his congregation at Reedy Branch church:

"If the new building had been ready during the Ministers' Conference all 77 ministers could have stayed in that one building, had their services in the beautiful chapel with its laminated beams, and then would have only about 50 feet to walk to their meals. It is a beautiful and convenient building.

"It is 140 feet long. The second story has bedrooms and baths; the first story has the manager's apartment and rooms for the handicapped, and the chapel.

"There is a fireplace in the chapel to be used for the camp during winter. The building is completely winterized and they can have year-round camps now."

Well, we can share Wilson's enthusiasm. Let us also share the cost of these new buildings. Get your group (or your church) involved in raising the needed funds to pay for these new buildings. As we see it, Cragmont was never better; its greatest years are just ahead.

SATISFIED

Mrs. Luther Tugwell

I reached the height of my ambition,
When I became a Christian.
I am satisfied with my goal
Because Jesus has made me whole.

Dear God, help me to grow closer each day
And help me show others the way
By living so close to thee—
My life will be full of serenity.

Thank you God, for your Son—
You gave so our souls could be won,
My heart is happy; my eyes full of joyful tears,
Knowing I will live forever, not for years!

DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE MEETS

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME



Left to right: Bob Mayer, DUKE ENDOWMENT; Bill Monson, DUKE ENDOWMENT; Erv Plummer, GROUP CHILD CARE CONSULTANT SERVICES; Oscar Webster; the Rev. Fred Rivenbark; Ross Phipps; Billy Dilday. Seated: the Rev. David C. Hansley; and J. Stewart Humphrey. (Not pictured: Sam Lane; Carolyn Eakes; Genora Greene, NASH COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES; and Charles Sullivan.)

The Board of Directors of the Children's Home elected a Directions Committee to help the Board determine the effectiveness of our present child care program, new trends in child care, and how these new trends will affect our Children's Home. The new committee met on October 13 at the Children's Home.

The recommendations of the Directions Committee to the Board of Directors were:

1. A Board Seminar on philosophies, policies, procedures, and goals of our present program, current trends in child care and modifications needed in our program, utilizing GROUP CHILD CARE CONSULTANT SERVICES personnel, should be convened.
2. The Publicity Committee of the Board needs to develop strategies to more fully inform the denomination of the program offered.
3. An ongoing Board of Directors Educational Program needs to be developed in order to keep directors informed of current trends in the child care field.

The Children's Home Board has accepted the recommendations of the committee and plans a spring seminar as suggested by the committee. Plans are underway to fulfill the other two recommendations also.

There will be further meetings of the Directions Committee in the spring to continue to analyze the trends facing child care agencies today and especially our own. It is the goal of our Board of Directors to provide quality, Christian child care for the homeless, dependent, neglected, abused, and orphaned child.

Our Board solicits your prayers in making this goal a reality.

QUILTS FROM DEEP RUN

The ladies of the Deep Run church handmade 12 single quilts and one double quilt for Smith Cottage. What can be more secure than curling up in bed under a warm quilt made by the loving hands of one of God's children? To know that someone cared just for you enough to devote several hours of precious time to make a quilt especially for you.

It is those little things in life that count, a quilt, a smile, a touch that makes the Children's Home a real home.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Mrs. Doris Smith who made all the tops and to Mrs. Claudine Kennedy for her leadership as president of the auxiliary and to everyone who helped in the quilting.

DINNER PROCEEDS

Mrs. E. D. Harrison and the ladies of the Rose of Sharon Free Will Baptist Church put on a Thanksgiving dinner in their community for the Children's Home. The dinner netted $558.50 for the Home. These ladies worked hard and their friends and neighbors made their efforts worthwhile.

All of us here at the Children's Home would like to thank each one who had a part in this effort.

Churches and Ministers Available

The Eastern Conference Mission Board is in need of a minister who is in good standing with his conference to assume the responsibility of a mission that is already organized and operating in Beaufort, North Carolina. Any minister who is interested and desires more information may contact the Rev. Walter J. Sutton, Chairman; Route 2, Box 100-A; Vanceboro, North Carolina 28586; or phone collect 244-0207. Mr. Sutton will arrange a meeting any time with anyone who desires it.

DECEMBER IS FOREIGN MISSIONS MONTH.

Send Us Your Church Publications

Let People Know What You're Doing

One of the best sources of newsworthy items for **The Free Will Baptist,** is your weekly church bulletin or newsletter or both. You should be happy to let other churches know what you are doing, and we will be happy to print it for you.

A good example of this is the fine monthly paper published by the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville, North Carolina. Another is the newsletter we receive from the Living Waters Free Will Baptist Church near Pikeville, North Carolina, whose pastor is the Rev. Harold Jones.

In the December issue of **The Reedy Branch Reminder,** pastor Willis Wilson wrote:

''This past month has been one of the most exciting months in our entire church year.

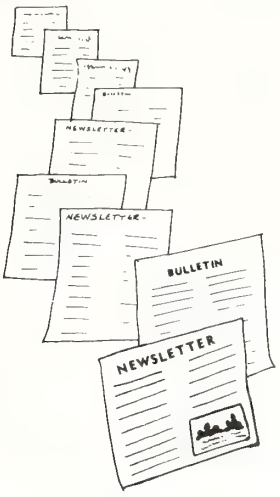
''On first Sunday in November we observed the 178th anniversary of our church with almost $12,000 in the offering that day . . . enough money came in the following week to run it over the top.

''God has been good to us this year and I believe we showed it by our response on that great day.

''We had around 800 people for lunch . . . and the song fest was the best attended of any we have ever had. Mr. Blanie Moye was in charge and he did a grand job.''

Editor Tommy Manning will be returning to his desk within another two weeks or so, after a leave of absence to pursue further studies, and to do student teaching, and he will welcome your communications.

Let Us Help



You Tell It!

If you have done something worth doing, let others rejoice with you, and they will be inspired to go and do likewise.

BABY DAY at Spring Branch

Sunday morning worship hour on November 8, 1978, was a great experience at Spring Branch Free Will Baptist Church near Walstonburg, North Carolina. This was Baby Dedication Day for seven couples and their nine children.

God has blessed Spring Branch church with children. ''Beginning with the birth of a baby girl on August 8, six baby girls came to us in only five weeks,'' writes Pastor Royce Reynolds.

Those dedicated were: Melissa and Melinda, twin daughters of Donald and Sandy Beaman; Amanda and Angela, daughters of Al and Linda Suggs; Crystal, daughter of John Stanley and Brenda Craft; Suzanne, daughter of Larry and Cindy Toney; Heather, daughter of Glenn and Judy Shirley; Tonya, daughter of Bobby and Peggy Sumrell; and Kelly, daughter of Pastor Reynolds and his wife Fleedie.



Spring Branch church numbers forty young people under the age of twenty. Pastor Reynolds says, ''Surely Spring Branch church has a great future with many more experiences as meaningful as those of the fall of 1978.''

FILLERS FOR THE BULLETINS

Pastors (or church secretaries) are always looking for fresh, striking fillers for their weekly bulletins. Here are some we think you will like. They are selected from various sources.

''For Christmas'' remarked a lady to her friend, ''I was visited by a jolly, bearded fellow with a bag over his shoulder. My son came home from college with his dirty laundry.''

A little boy was leading his sister up a mountain path. ''Why,'' she complained, ''it's not a path at all. It's all rocky and bumpy.'' ''Sure,'' he said, ''the bumps are what you climb on.''

It's hard to know when one generation ends and the next begins. . .but it's somewhere around nine o'clock at night.

"Makes Me Want to Move"

Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes

Middlesex, North Carolina



Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, located adjacent to the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, are for you. The active retiree can find satisfaction sharing hobbies and other interests with the children and staff of the Children's Home. On the other hand, there is plenty of peace and quiet for those who want privacy. Rolling hills and wide open spaces offer opportunities for gardening and long, leisurely walks without the hustle and bustle of traffic. For the sportsman there is fishing, tennis, swimming and other recreational opportunities. "Makes me want to move right away." These were the words of one of our Board members when presented with the contents of our new brochure several days ago. Our Retirement Homes offer this and so much more.

Since its founding our roads have been four-laned to Wilson, Raleigh, Nashville, and Rocky Mount. Middlesex will soon have a doctor of its own. Rescue facilities are available. Wilson, Zebulon, and Raleigh offer the finest medical facilities. Wilson is getting a new shopping mall and Raleigh has acres of malls for the shopper.

Transportation is not a problem for our residents who are able to drive. However, should transportation be needed it will be made available to the resident of the Retirement Homes. The addition of two new residents as soon as the second duplex is completed will result in expanded programs for the retired person.

There is more than convenience, medical service, and low cost housing at the Retirement Homes. There is also the opportunity to live and enjoy the friendship of persons of like faith and interests. More than anything above our physical needs we need friends.

We believe that you will want to move, too. January is Retirement Homes month. Make plans to receive an offering in your church. Put Retirement Homes in your budget, your will and, most of all, in your prayers.

THE BEST

"Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be," said Browning. Can we be sure of that? Can we be sure that our retiring years will be the best years yet? With the economic condition of our country such as it is at this time, the retiring years can be disastrous for those who are not wealthy. Ministers and other full-time denominational employees are particularly susceptible to problems at this time since most do not have homes of their own. For many ministers and laypersons who plan to rent in their retiring years the soaring cost of rental property will devour their meager retirement incomes in no time at all. How can the best be yet to come in the face of such odds?

Housing is necessary and the retired have very little control over the cost unless they own their own homes. For those who do not have their own, the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc. offers comfortable, low-costing housing. Housing costs are reduced to routine utilities and miscellaneous expenses which result in a cost of little more than one fourth of the retired person's income. Relieved of insurance costs, taxes, and house payments, retired individuals have the largest part of their income available for the other essentials of life.

Our Lord commanded us to care for the aged. Free Will Baptists have accepted that challenge and established the Free Will Baptist Retirement Homes, Inc. One duplex has been completed and another is desperately needed. Several informal inquiries have been made, but both of our units are filled and we are not able to offer new inquirers an apartment at this time. We need to begin our second duplex right away.

January is Retirement Homes month. We need to raise an additional $10,000 so we can begin construction. The building will be built on a cash basis. We must depend entirely upon our people for the funds. We have asked our churches for at least $2 per member next year for routine operations. We need to raise funds for the new building in addition to our operational funds. The following program offers recognition to individuals for their gifts:

1. The building will be named for the one who gives at least one third of the cost of construction.
2. Special plaques will be posted for those who give $1,000 or more.
3. Names of donors giving $100 or more will be inscribed on a plaque which will be placed in the main hall of the new unit.

We challenge each of our churches and individuals as well to help us provide for our fellow Christians who have retired. The best is yet to be for our retired laypeople and our retired ministers because our people can be accounted as faithful. Remember the Retirement Homes during the month of January in your prayers and your giving.

NEWS & NOTES

First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, Honors Youth



The second weekend in November was designated as "Youth Appreciation Weekend" at First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, A formal banquet was given in the honor of our young people on Saturday night. The fellowship hall was decorated with the theme of the banquet, "Reflections of Your Life." An honor ceremony was given with the pastor, youth pastor, and youth chairman reflecting on the work of the young people over the past year.

On Sunday, the morning worship service was dedicated to the youth department. Plaques and gifts were presented to each young person present. A special award went to Kent Howell who received the Eagle Scout Award. The youth choir then brought the special music for the morning. "Sonlites" were the guest singers for the evening service. Their music was enjoyed by all and touched many hearts at the altar call. It was a weekend that will not be forgotten at the church. This was just a small token of appreciation to the young people at First Church, Wilson. The pastor, the Rev. Clyde W. Cox; and youth pastor, Craig Simmons extend a warm welcome to come and worship at the Wilson church.

Youth Choir Presents Cantata

The youth choir of Sweet Gum Grove Free Will Baptist Church will present the Christmas Cantata "WOW, IT'S CHRISTMAS" on Sunday night, December 17, 1978, at 7 p. m.

The pastor and congregation extend a warm invitation to everyone.

Christmas Cantata at Kinston Church

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Saviour.

Christmas is truly a time of celebration, a time to reflect on the love, joy, and peace which the Saviour of mankind provides to those who will let him, and a time for Christians to join together to praise their Lord.

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Kinston, North Carolina, invites you to share their celebration of Christmas on December 24, 1978, at 11 a. m. as the Adult Choir presents LOVE, JOY, PEACE, a cantata for Christmas by Tom Fettke.

The Adult Choir of First Free Will Baptist Church, Kinston, is one of the finest and most competent church choirs in eastern North Carolina and their presentation of LOVE, JOY, PEACE promises to be a truly memorable worship experience, an experience which will enrich the spiritual life of every believer.

A worship presentation of this calibre is an opportunity to participate in the magnificent presence of Christmas that should not be missed.

Christmas Program, Edgewood Church

Edgewood Free Will Baptist Church, near Crisp, will present a program of music on Saturday night, December 16, at 7:30 p. m. The Living Christmas Tree will be composed of the adult choir, the ensemble, the youth choir, and quartet. There will be specials presented by these groups as well as other specials. The program will also be presented on Sunday night, December 24, at 7:30 p. m.

The program has been scheduled twice so that friends, relatives, and neighboring churches can attend the program without interfering with their regularly scheduled services.

The Living Christmas Tree is composed of 32 voices and they extend a very cordial welcome to everyone to attend this message in music, from the branches of "the Living Christmas Tree."

Fourth Central Union District Meets

The Fourth Central Union District will meet at the Watery Branch Free Will Baptist Church, on December 31. The scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Sunday School
11:00—Hymn, "The Way of the Cross Leads Home"
—Welcome, Marie Taylor
—Response, Brenda Ellis
11:15—President's Remarks
—Missions Report
—Greetings from the Children's Home
—Mount Olive College
11:30—Special Music, Owens Chapel
—Sermon, the Rev. A. G. Smith
—Appointment of Committees
12:15—Lunch

AFTERNOON SESSION
1:15—Hymn, "My Saviour's Love"
—Devotion, Otter's Creek
—Special Music, Saratoga Church
—Business Period
—Program, Host Church
2:15—Adjournment

NOTICE

Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, on January 9, 1979, at 1:30 p. m.

NOTICE TO CONFERENCE CLERKS

As soon as possible after your Conference meets, please send us the minutes for the YEARBOOK.

Editorial Department

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

THE REV. FRANCIS GARNER

The Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, North Carolina, is the third church to honor its pastor in our weekly Honor-Your-Pastor feature. Mr. Garner is a faithful pastor and deserves to be given this honor, as we are sure your pastor does also. Why don't you be the fourth church to respond? Please send black and white glossy prints and whatever information on your pastor you think will be interesting to others.

FREE UNION HONORS PASTOR

by Billy and Christine Waters

"Prove all things and hold fast that which is good."

This is a familiar prayer heard by members of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church and uttered by our beloved pastor, the Rev. Francis Garner whom we wish to honor.

He is pastor of Free Union Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown, North Carolina, Beaufort County.

Mr. Garner is the son of Mrs. Agnes Garner and the late Roy T. Garner of Newport, North Carolina.

He graduated from Newport High School in 1951 and spent four years in the United States Navy. During this time he married Lorraine Higgins. They have four children; Mrs. Jan G. Haskett, Mrs. Karen G. Clayton, Steve, and Pam Garner. They have one grandchild, Brent Michael Haskett.

Mr. Garner accepted Christ at the age of fourteen and became a member of Holly Springs Free Will Baptist Church of Newport. There he served on the deacon board and as Sunday school superintendent.

He answered the call to the ministry in 1962 and was ordained in 1963.

He has pastored at Long Ridge, Snow Hill, and Cabin churches in Duplin County, Robert's Grove in Sampson County; and was with the Free Will Baptist Children's Home four years. During this time he was supply pastor for Piney Grove, Greenville, North Carolina, First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, and St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Newton Grove, North Carolina.

Currently he is moderator of the Albemarle Conference, president of the North Carolina Free Will Baptist Ministerial Association, and on the board of home missions for the North Carolina State Convention.

Mr. Garner and his family came with us in July, 1974, and since that time there has been much progress at Free Union—including construction of the pastor's study, enlargement of the parsonage, enlarged parking area, and about 7,500 square feet educational building with a kitchen and large fellowship hall.



The Rev. Francis Garn

Our pastor is very dedicated to God and the church, and he is loved by young and old.

He and Mrs. Garner are inspiring guides to the children and young people of the church. He participates with the YFA and AFC projects and the two choirs formed by the church youth. Though he is always jolly he is very serious when one of "his young people has a problem."

He never spares the opportunity to praise the youth for their efforts.

One of Mr. Garner's favorite verses of Scripture is Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthenth me."

We are thankful for:
What our eyes have seen,
What our ears have heard and
What our hearts have felt,
since Mr. Garner and his family have been with us at Free Union.

God has so richly poured his blessings upon us.

Coming Events . . .

December—Entire Month Designated by the State Convention as Foreign Missions Month

December 15—Fall Semester Ends, Mount Olive College. Residence Halls reopen Monday, January 8.

December 16—Christmas Holidays, Mount Olive College

December 22—Annual Christmas Program and Party, 6 p. m., Children's Home, Middlesex

December 25—Christmas Day

December 25, 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

December 29—Cragmont Rally, Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Goldsboro, on Patetown Road, 7 p. m.

January 9—Central Conference Ministerial Fellowship to meet at the Three Steers Restaurant, Greenville, at 11 a. m.

January 9—Central Conference Ordaining Council meets at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, at 1:30 p. m.

HELP NEEDED

The Rev. Herman Wooten, a Free Will Baptist minister of long standing in the Cape Fear Conference, is in need of financial assistance. Whatever gift you may send to this aged veteran of the ministry will be appreciated.

His address is 104 Avery Street, Garner, North Carolina 27529.

Though Christ a thousand times in Bethlehem be born, if He's not born to thy soul, thy soul is forlorn.

63 Years Ago

WE READ IT IN THIS PAPER

"The Free Will Baptists of North Carolina at the State Convention held with the church at Shady Grove, Sampson County, September 1915, took up the matter of building an Orphanage Home, which received the endorsement of all from the various sections of the state . . ."

The committee making the report was composed of J. F. Casey, W. Ruffin Coats, W. J. Braxton, and M. C. Prescott.

"Echoes from the State Convention.—The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. R. F. Pittman from Gal. 5:7, 'Ye did run well, who did hinder you?'

"The committee (to revise The Book of Discipline) that was appointed last year failed to do any work that was worth mentioning. The following were appointed a new committee: From the Western Conference, R. F. Pittman, chairman; Cape Fear, W. A. Jackson; Central, W. J. Braxton; Eastern, S. H. Styron . . ."

"Eld. M. C. Prescott filled his regular appointment on Sunday (at Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville). He was also with us the week before and taught singing for us. What a glorious preacher have we, who can sing and preach so well!"—News Notes, sent in by Mrs. Maggie Davenport.

(Now, to be perfectly honest with you, some of us did not read this 63 years ago; I was only three years old.—C. F. B.)

Now until Christmas . . .

20% off on a select group of Bibles including the NewInternational Version and the Ryrie Study Bibles.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

And May God's Blessing Go with You All Throughout the New Year



From All the Staff and Members of Home Missions and Church Extension

The child in the Home Missions Christmas Greeting is Allen. Allen is a fatherless child that attends one of our home missions. Allen is a very good and lovable child and all of the mission members love him very much; he has found a family of friends that will stand by him.

Historical Society Officers Meet



OFFICERS OF THE FREE WILL BAPTIST Historical Society elected for the biennium 1979-80 at its semi-annual meeting held at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home on November 18, 1978, are as follows: Seated left to right, Dr. Michael Pelt, president; Leah McGlohon, vice-president; Standing left to right, James A. Evans, member-at-large; Louise Edgerton, treasurer; Kenneth Dilda, secretary.

CRAGMONT RALLY

DECEMBER 29, 1978

7-9 P. M.

Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church
Goldsboro, N. C.

Each Summer Encampment Will Be Represented

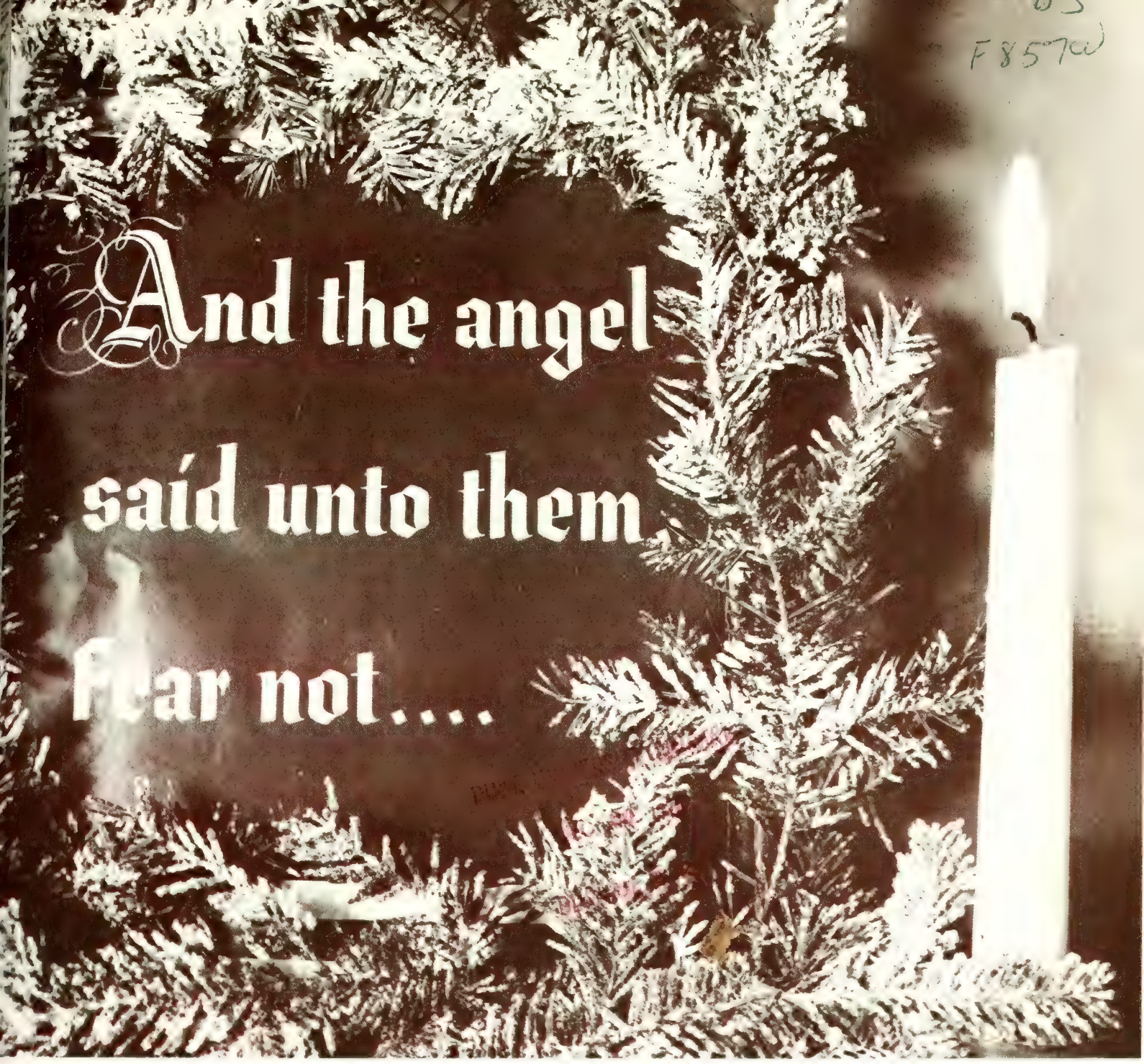
Special Music

Slides of the New Building

A Special Offering for the New Building

Everyone Is Invited

F857w



TO PARAPHRASE A WINSOME AND LOVELY CHRISTMAS SONG, "HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS"—AND HAVE A GOOD NEW YEAR TOO.

C. F. BOWEN,
Acting Editor

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1978, AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

Editorial . . .



the Rev. C. F. Bowen

Cover Photo by Luoma

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DECEMBER 20, 1978
Volume 93 Number 50

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Every Family Plan: A 25 percent discount given when local churches send the "Baptist" to the home of every member; names and addresses to be provided by churches. Churches are billed quarterly.

Bundle Plan: Lots of 25 or more "Baptists" are sent to one individual who in turn distributes these. A 50 percent discount is offered under this plan.

The contents herein do not necessarily reflect the beliefs or policies of the editor or of **The Free Will Baptist.** The responsibility for each article is given the person whose name appears under the title or to the person submitting said article.

Items for publication should be addressed to the Editor, **The Free Will Baptist,** P. O. Box 158, Ayden, North Carolina 28513.

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Smithfield, New Bern, Wilson, and Kinston, 9:30 a. m.—5 p. m., Monday—Saturday.

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Rather Fight Than Switch?

IF GOD IS CALLING, DON'T FIGHT IT

I guess I don't get around as much as I used to. Time was when I knew almost every minister from Cape Fear Country to the coast. Today, as I glance through our Yearbook I find scores of new pastors whom I do not know, which is to my disadvantage. But perhaps that's not too important.

What is important is, I am happy to know that God is calling many fine young men (and some older ones) to the ministry of our denomination. That brings me up to the subject of this editorial.

Older ministers used to say to prospective candidates for the ministry, as was said to me in 1937: "If you think God is calling you to become a preacher, fight it as long as you can," the point being that if God is truly calling you He will not let you alone until you surrender. Then they said you will know for certain that you are chosen.

There is something to be said for that, but something else should be added.

To the great sorrow of a few men I have known, they fought too long and too hard. In the words of an outmoded cliche, they really had rather "fight than switch." I have no idea where they are today.

Certainly we must all agree that no one should "enter" the ministry unless called of God to do so. The ministry is not a profession such as that of law or medicine; it is the highest calling of God man can receive, and must never be considered lightly or indifferently, but always with the highest esteem and deepest reverence.

But the idea of "fighting it as long as you can" would be rather like the attitude of Jonah who rebelled and fought against God's call to preach to the sinners at Nineveh. No one feels it was to his credit.

What a delightful contrast we see in the case of Isaiah who, when he was assured God was calling, exclaimed without hesitation or question, "Here am I; send me."

The conclusion of this matter is: be an Isaiah, not a Jonah. When you know God is calling you, answer affirmatively; He always knows what He is doing.

I hope to see many more names of worthy and qualified young men on our ministerial rolls.

Heaven knows we need them.

God bless all of you with a Merry Christmas and a most prosperous New Year.

A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

by the Rev. Graham Faucette

Christ's birth, like every other aspect His life, was fully human and fully ivine. He was born of a woman, like all en. Yet this woman was a virgin, like o other mother has ever been. His was a mple birth, in crude surroundings, uch like births of common class men r centuries. Yet His birth was anounced by angels and witnessed by orshipers whom God had guided to is cradle.

God combined the spiritual and special ith the common and ordinary as He sent is Son to earth. Let's remember that as e celebrate. If we wish, we may revel Christmas, as men tell us we should. ut let us do it with a purpose and a pirit that come from God.

It's Christmas again, and things are o expensive. Holiday shopping becomes chore as the desire to give often exeeds the ability to pay. Goodwill on a udget can be less than lavish. And one magines even "Santa's" pack not quite o plump, as inflation takes its toll. The ifts clustered under our loved ones' rees represent our sacrifical spending. hristmas costs so much. But maybe hat's how it should be. After all, hristmas memorializes sacrifice.

God gave us the most expensive gift; ot announced by a taped-on, store ought greeting, but the eloquent words f a roughly dressed preacher; not rapped with ribbon and ruffles, but ith humble, clean swaddling clothes; ot displayed on a spotless sheet under nsel and pine, but among the sleeping laces of the brutes. God paid the price f His own Son's life; this we recall t Christmas. Can we imagine a preent more costly?

Things are cheap compared with that ift. And Christmas customs may mean less beside the facts of the nativity.

The tape-recorded carols in the downtown stores seem cheap beside praises proclaimed by a host of angels. The racket at the office party seems empty beside the treasures brought by the wise men. The long anticipated paycheck bonus loses its value beside the infant Christ, crying in a manger.

Maybe Christmas doesn't cost us enough. Maybe the miracle of the incarnation hasn't impressed us as it should. Maybe the price we've paid has only been a token of what God expects and Christ has exemplified. Maybe we need to imitate the sacrifice that brought Jesus to a stable. Maybe we need to demonstrate the love that let Him lie in a straw filled bed. Maybe we need to consider the cost of complete commitment.

Blessings received from such a decision last longer than winter's melting snows. Accomplishment gained from such a move remains long after the glass ornaments have been packed away. Souls won because of such dedication stay faithful from holiday to holiday. How much will Christmas cost you? Things are expensive now, but on such blessings no price can be placed.

Christmas, if it means anything, means that the all loving God refused to ignore the sin inflicted anguish of this rebellious planet. At Bethlehem He as man entered into a battle for man which He finally won on a bloody Cross.

May we as Christians see the sufferings and struggles of a world in turmoil and come to the rescue. May we not become so preoccupied this Yuletide season and forget that this is what Christmas is all about. "Even so send I you" (John 20:21).



THE REV. GRAHAM FAUCETTE, a minister in the Western Conference of North Carolina Free Will Baptists, shares with us some arresting thoughts on Christmas observation, and carefully evaluates what our attitude should be toward this "special celebration." Mr. Faucette's address is Route 1, Kenly, North Carolina.

A LETTER OF APPRECIATION

For the many kindnesses extended during the illness and death of the Rev. Loy Everette Ballard, the family wishes to express its gratitude. The love offerings from church groups, the individual gifts, the flowers, the memorials given to denominational enterprises in his name, and your prayers in his behalf, have meant so much.

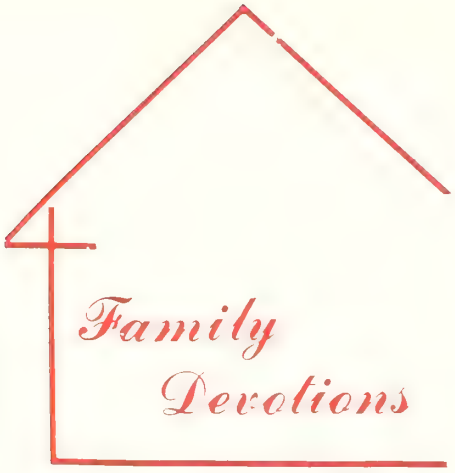
After about a year and a half of illness due to cancer, "Uncle Loy," or "Pa" Ballard, as he was lovingly known throughout the denomination, went to be with the Lord on November 19, 1978.

Your continued prayers that the grace of Christ might sustain the family are requested.

Mrs. Gertrude O. Ballard (widow)
and sons, Jerry and Beverly



HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Scripture Reading—Luke 2:7

WHAT HE WANTS MOST OF ALL

"Mommie," asked Jane, "what makes everybody so happy at Christmas?" "Well, because it is the Lord Jesus' birthday . . . and because we love Him . . . and because we are happy about His coming to this world." Jane thought a minute and then said, "And is the Lord happy about you?" Oh, little girlie, what a question you've asked! Is the Lord Jesus happy about us on His birthday? Really happy because He sees within our hearts a deep, true love for Him? A satisfying love and not just a seasonal affection stirred up by the festivities of Christmas? . . . What He wants more than anything else on His birthday is the love of our hearts.

PRAYER THOUGHT

What is going to be your gift to Jesus on His birthday? Don't you like to receive gifts on your birthday? So does Jesus!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Scripture Reading—Matthew 2:1

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

As now we celebrate His birth,
The coming of the Christ to earth,
May we, amid our joyous mirth,
Keep Jesus first in Christmas!

As chiming bells ring out their lay,
And hearts are merry, light and gay,
Remember it is His birthday—
Keep Jesus first in Christmas!

Let's sing of Him in carols sweet,
Let's lay our best gifts at His feet
And make the season's joy complete—
With Jesus first in Christmas!

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have we become so interested in Santa Claus that we forget about Jesus? We should never forget about the baby who later died to save the people of the world from their sins. Hope you have a Merry Christmas!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 6:18

"ALL I COULD ASK!"

Press dispatches brought the sad news of the death of Ensign Neal Anderson Scott, son of a Presbyterian minister of Goldsboro, North Carolina. Ensign Scott was graduated with honors from Davidson College in 1940. He then entered the Harvard School of Business Administration. When the war came he promptly enlisted in the Navy.

During the naval battle around the Solomon Islands a Japanese bomber made a suicide dive right onto the deck of Ensign Scott's ship. Young Scott was mortally wounded. Evidently he knew he had only a few minutes to live. First he gave the order, *"Keep those guns firing, mates."* After that he dictated a farewell message to his father: *"To have had you and Mother for these twenty-four years has been all I could ask for in this world."* Then he was gone.

These last words are a wonderful tribute to his parents. Would that every son could give this testimony concerning those who nurtured him. These words will no doubt go down to coming generations. One finds it hard to imagine the feelings of his parents. But it is safe to say they will treasure those words among their most precious possessions. Considering the circumstances under which they were spoken, Ensign Scott's last words deserve to live and to be passed on to the young people of America and the world for generations to come.

PRAYER THOUGHT

One of the Ten Commandments is "Honor thy father and thy mother." What greater pleasure in life than being a part of a family, especially in the family of God!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

Scripture Reading—Hebrews 6:10

ANSWER TO WORLD'S TENSION: AN EDUCATED HEART

"We have educated our heads and our hands. Now, the need seems to be for an educated heart. Never before have so many Americans possessed college degrees. Never have we had so much wealth per capita. Never have we been so physically comfortable. Yet, never have we lived under such tension. Never have so many of our people occupied hospital beds for the mentally ill. Never have we felt so insecure. Never have we felt so close to a general failure of the human spirit; never so close to moral bankruptcy! One does not need to be a theologian to know that the person who would keep sane, happy and balanced under the extreme stress of modern living MUST enjoy an active partnership with a POWER that is higher than he!"

PRAYER THOUGHT

Aren't we blessed with too much in the world today? Let's not forget to thank God for all that He has given to us every day.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

Scripture Reading—John 5:17

A SON'S SURPRISED GRATITUDE

As is always the case, God's commands are a part of His gracious program for our temporal and our eternal welfare. We are to learn what is worthwhile and what is harmful through "nurture," through "chastening," and through "admonition." In Hebrews we are told that whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth and that if we be without chastisement then we are not sons. A young man, away at college, wrote his father a birthday letter, and said that his desire was to give expression to his love and gratitude for the parental program. "There was a time," said the son, "when I thought you were hard on me, and I resented it, and determined that when I was out from under the home roof, I would do my own way. Since I have been at college I have found that I have so many worthwhile things which others do not have. . . . . I am writing to thank you and to express my gratitude, and to say that if I ever have a home of my own I want it to be like the one in which I grew up."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Have you ever stopped to thank your parents for all they have done for you—educated you, fed and clothed you when you were young and unable to do for yourself? But mainly have you thanked God for giving you all these wonderful things?

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:16

REMINDERS

"Sometimes I think I am not a Christian," said a boy one day. "I don't seem to have the same interest that I had when I joined the church. It isn't easy for me to remember God." "What about the time when your father was away from home so long? Was it hard for you to remember him?" asked the minister slowly. "Not a bit," said the boy. "We had letters from him and kept thinking about him and talking about him, and looking forward to the time when he'd come home. No, there wasn't much chance to forget him." "Suppose there had been no letters. Suppose your father's name had been dropped from the conversation," said the minister thoughtfully. "That would have made a difference," answered the boy slowly. "Well, don't you see it is the same with God? We can't see Him. It isn't to be wondered at if we forget Him when we allow so many other things to crowd in upon us. But God has given us His Holy Word—something like your father's letters—and His house where the members of the family can meet and talk about Him." "I see what you mean, and you're right. A fellow needs all the reminders of God he can have in a world like this."

PRAYER THOUGHT

Many of us are tempted each day. That is why we should pray to God each day.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

Scripture Reading—2 Corinthians 13:14

BE ALONE SOMETIMES

Secure for yourself some privacy of life. As George Herbert says, "By all means use some time to be alone." God has put each into a separate body. We should follow the divine hint, and not lapse into the general flood of being.

Many people cannot endure being alone; they are lost unless there is a clatter of tongues in their ears. It is not only weak, but it fosters weakness. The gregarious instinct is animal; to be alone is spiritual. We can have no clear personal judgment of things till we are somewhat separate from them.

Daniel Webster used to say of a difficult question, "Let me sleep on it." It was not merely for morning vigor, but to get the matter at a distance where he could measure the proportions and see its relations. So it is well at times to get away from our world—companions, actions, work—in order to measure it and ascertain our relations to it. The moral value of the night is in the isolation it brings, shutting out the world from the senses, that it may be realized in thought.

This is very simple advice but worth heeding: Get some moments each day to yourself; take now and then a solitary walk; get into the silence of thick woods, or some other isolation as deep, and suffer the mysterious sense of selfhood to steal upon you as it surely will.

PRAYER THOUGHT

It is good to be alone and meditate with God sometimes. You should pray to Him each day.

Editor's Note: Due to our policy of printing only 50 issues each year, there will be no magazine for next week and thus no Family Devotion. Please use other inspirational readings to continue your family devotions.

Pastor of the Week

THE REV. CHARLES PARRISH

THIS WEEK OUR HONORED MINISTER is the beloved pastor of Sidney Free Will Baptist Church near Belhaven, North Carolina. He is the fourth to be recognized in this space. Your pastor can be next. Please send vital information on him, along with a black and white glossy print of him. Your picture may also include his wife and his family if you desire.

SIDNEY CHURCH HONORS PASTOR

by Mrs. Edwin Roper

The Rev. Charles Parrish is a native of Georgia. After having served in the United States Army for twenty years, he, with his family, came to North Carolina and made it his home. In 1966 he rededicated his life to Jesus under the leadership of the Rev. Taylor Hill and became an active member of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Fayetteville, North Carolina. He served as a deacon, a Sunday school teacher, and helped organize a Men's Fellowship in the church. This church later became known as Eastwood Free Will Baptist Church.

Mr. Parrish was called to the ministry in 1970, and was licensed to preach. He was ordained in 1972. His first pastorate was Pleasant Grove church in Erwin, North Carolina. In 1976, he became the pastor of Sidney Free Will Baptist Church.

His deep love and devotion to God constrained him to serve the church with diligence. Seldom is seen one with so much love and compassion for lost souls, and his one desire above all else is to reach the lost and bring them to Jesus. A visitation program was organized. Many



The Rev. Charles Parrish

families in the community were visited and urged to attend church and Sunday school. Checking the church roll he found many inactive members and immediately made plans to visit them, encouraging them to attend their church services. Members who had moved away were contacted by letter.

Since he became pastor of our church a parsonage has been built, a church

(Continued on Page 7)

Current Happenings at

MOUNT OLIVE COLLEGE

Mount Olive, North Carolina

Dedication Made at Moye Library

The service area of Moye Library at Mount Olive College was dedicated in a private ceremony December 3, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kennedy of Beulaville.

The dedication was in recognition of a special gift to the library project by the four Kennedy children, Mrs. Frances Kennedy Bostic of Beulaville, Hayes Dean Kennedy of Pink Hill, Mrs. Faye Kennedy Willard and Arthur Frederic Kennedy, both of Raleigh.

A plaque, unveiled by College President, Dr. W. Burkette Raper, reads, ''Library Service Area, In Love and Appreciation of Mamie and Arthur Kennedy, By their children Frances-Dean-Faye-Frederic, ''Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother, December, 1978.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kennedy reside in Beulaville where Mr. Kennedy is a farmer. They are members of Sandy Plain Free Will Baptist Church, and Mrs. Kennedy is a member of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees. Three of the Kennedy children attended Mount Olive College.

Christmas Day Television Special

The annual Christmas Carousel on WITN-TV Channel 7, Washington, will feature the Mount Olive College Chorus in a presentation of ''The Night Before Christmas'' to be aired on Christmas Day at 6:30 a. m.

All Free Will Baptists and friends are invited to watch this early morning Christmas special.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

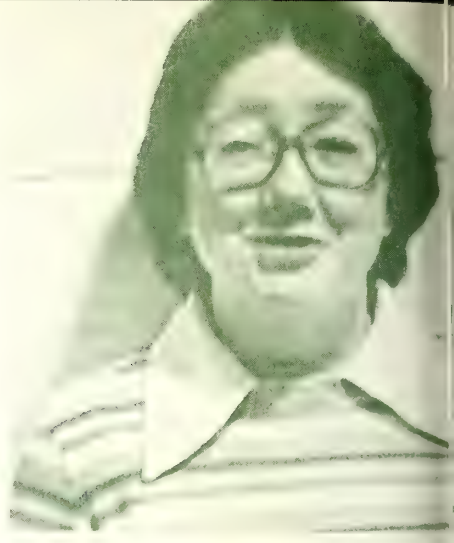
Eighteen year old Melaine Creech is Mount Olive College Student of the Week and a member of Goldsboro's First Free Will Baptist Church.

A graduate of Goldsboro High School, Melaine is a freshman at Mount Olive who is still undecided about her major.

''I definitely want to teach school but I'm still undecided about what grades,'' Melaine said, ''and I think I'll probably major in English, but I'm still making up my mind.''

Melaine notes her interests are diverse. She loves music and sings with a group at church. She is also a technical drama enthusiast, having participated in three high school plays as prop manager and assistant manager.

Her nominator describes her as ''very outgoing and friendly'' and ''always around when you need her.''



Melaine also has a sister, Sharlene, who graduated from Mount Olive College in 1975. Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Melvin R. Creech of Goldsboro.

GIFTS TO MOYE LIBRARY

Gifts to Moye Library, Mount Olive College, during the month of November, 1978, totaled $365 and were as follows:

In Memory of

Mrs. Lettie Aycock by Mrs. Zylphia E. Aycock, Mount Olive.

The Rev. L. E. Ballard by Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; and Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Nellie W. Brite by Mr. Eugene L. Gaskill, Fayetteville.

Mrs. Faye C. Burroughs by Mrs. and Mrs. J. B. Wingate, Ayden.

Mr. H. Jordan Dail by Miss Pamela R. Wood, Mount Olive; Gary F. Barefoot, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. Doug Connor, Mount Olive.

Mr. Norman Dail by Mr. and Mrs. Doug Connor, Mount Olive; and Celia



MOC PRESIDENT W. Burkette Raper, right, stands with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kennedy of Beulaville, North Carolina, after the unveiling of a plaque dedicating the service area of Moye Library at Mount Olive College in their honor. The dedication was in recognition of a special gift given by the Kennedy children in honor of their parents.

Hart Garris Woman's Auxiliary, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Mr. Silas Davis by Little Rock Free Will Baptist Church, Lucama; and Mrs. Daisy Simpson, Lucama.

Mr. Timothy L. Driver by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Strickland and Judy, Middlesex.

The Rev. Thomas J. Ellis by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Evelyn Evans by Mr. and Mrs. Doug Connor, Mount Olive.

Mr. William Theodore Gay by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mr. Ralph Grady by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive; and Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mr. Eddie Earl Griffin by Mrs. Nora M. Miller, Beulaville; and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth G. Jones, Beulaville.

Mrs. Roberta Powell Hines by Mrs. Carrie P. Herring, Mount Olive.

Mr. Roger Kennedy by Woman's Auxiliary, Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Beulaville.

Mr. Lamuel Kornegay by Mr. Bryce H. Ficken, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Annie Creech Lee by Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Middlesex.

Mr. Harold C. Mallard by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Rapper, Mount Olive.

Mr. Ottis Miller by Woman's Auxiliary, Cabin Free Will Baptist Church, Beulaville.

Mr. Wiley Moore Jr. by Fifth Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference, Vanceboro.

Mrs. Daisy Adams Peedin by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Stocks, Mr. and Mrs. Thelbert H. Hart, Ayden; and Celia Hart Garris Woman's Auxiliary, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Mrs. Dephian Simpson by Celia Hart Garris Woman's Auxiliary, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Norine S. Smart by Celia Hart Garris Woman's Auxiliary, Ayden Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden.

Mr. Granger Tadlock by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mr. Selby E. Tomlinson by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Mrs. Ora Vann by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Mrs. Maggie Williams by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive .

Mrs. Bessie Williamson by Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunt, Lucama.

Atherleen J. Wood by Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Grimsley, Ayden.

Mrs. M. A. Woodard by Dawson's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Enfield.

In Honor of

Mr. and Mrs. Larry L. Crumpler Sr. by the Rev. and Mrs. Larry J. Crumpler, Albertson.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Holmes II by Dr. and Mrs. W. Burkette Raper, Mount Olive.

Christopher Ray Lewis by Mount Olive College Alumni Assocaition, Mount Olive.

Jon Hunt Mayo by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Terri Lynn Sanders by Mount Olive College Alumni Association, Mount Olive.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland J. Wallace by the Rev. and Mrs. Larry J. Crumpler, Albertson.

Mrs. Ruth Lancaster by Junior and Senior High Free Will Baptist Sunday School Class, Johnston Union Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield,

Eva P. Worthington by Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Wingate, Ayden.

Gifts

Elaine Jones, Mount Olive.

PASTOR OF THE WEEK

(Continued from Page 5)

library established, concrete walkways built from the church to the fellowship hall, carpeting installed on the floor of the pastor's study and the parsonage lawn landscaped with shrubbery, trees, and flowers.

In love he administers the Word of God to his congregation without compromise, pointing out sin and the consequences of a lack of repentance. He pleads with sinners to come to Jesus and receive Him as Saviour.

This man of God is a faithful supporter of all our denominational enterprises. First of all he loves Jesus. He is also a dedicated Free Will Baptist and likes to stand up and be counted as such.

He didn't come to us alone, but brought with him a beautiful Christian family. His wife, Barbara, has been an inspiration in that she has worked with the church faithfully, in spite of bodily pain that is incurable by human efforts. She is active in the woman's auxiliary of the church, has done outstanding work in the daily vacation Bible school, is a member of the church choir, and has served as librarian since becoming affiliated with the church. She is constantly at her husband's side in visitation whenever and wherever he needs her.

His two daughters, Debra and Kay, have been great assets to the church. Kay has served as pianist, music director in daily vacation Bible school, and sings in the choir. Debra has served as choir director. Through her leadership the first Christmas cantata in the church was beautifully presented last Christmas.

His son, Charles (Chuck), who is now serving in the United States Air Force, joins the family in rendering special music when he is home.

Mr. Parrish is leaving Sidney church to become pastor of Victory Mission at Hope Mills, North Carolina. God is calling this servant of His to broader fields of service. He expressed his desire to be used as an instrument of God in the year 1979, to win twenty-five souls to Jesus. Our prayer for Him is that God might double that number, for truly the fields are white unto harvest.

May God richly bless you, Mr. Parrish, and your precious family. You'll never know the good you have accomplished at our church until it is revealed to you in glory. Thank God for sending you our way. Our love and prayers will follow you and your loved ones wherever God leads you.

Coming Events . . .

December 25—Christmas Day

December 25, 26—Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., and All Bible Bookstores Closed—Ayden, New Bern, Smithfield, Wilson, and Kinston

December 29—Cragmont Rally, Stoney Creek Free Will Baptist Church, Route 2, Goldsboro, on Patetown Road, 7 p. m.

January 9—Central Conference Ministerial Fellowship to meet at the Three Steers Restaurant, Greenville, at 11 a. m.

January 9—Central Conference Ordaining Council meets at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, at 1:30 p. m.

January 9—Western Conference Ordaining Council meets at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, 10 a. m.

"Christmas is a
joyful as sunrise, as
as always as love.
Christmas and a c
happiness."

The Manage



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tiful as snowfall . . .
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Year of peace and

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Pictures of other bookstore personnel can be found on Page 15.

The Flower of Christmas Eve

The Poinsettia

by Jean Rasmussen

(We are indebted to "The Mainstream Scope," monthly newsletter of Living Waters Free Will Baptist Church, near Pikeville, North Carolina, the Rev. Harold Jones, pastor-editor, for this beautiful story of the Poinsettia, written by Jean Rasmussen.—C. F. B.)

In the year 1825, Joel Poinsett was sent to Mexico as the first American foreign minister to that country. While he was there he noticed a very beautiful red flower. The Mexicans called it the Flower of Christmas Eve. It had other names too—the Painted Leaf, and the Mexican Flame Leaf.

The star-shaped arrangement of its flower leaves reminds us of the star which guided the wise men to the Christ child.

Its bright red color is a symbol of the blood which Jesus shed when He gave His life for our sins.

We find a promise of the glories yet to be seen in Heaven in the golden center of the flower.

And the large, green leaves speak of the abundant and eternal life we have when we accept Him as our Saviour.

The poinsettia had no name of its own in America, so it was given the name of the man who found it. The Lord Jesus Christ came to seek us while we were lost in sin. When we are found; that is, when we receive Christ as Saviour, we may also be called by a name like His—the name Christian.

The story is told that Mr. Poinsett gave the flower as a gift to Mary Pringle, the woman he loved. We can imagine how pleased she was to receive it, but think how disappointed Mr. Poinsett would have been if his gift, which he had brought all the way from Mexico, had not been accepted.

Every day someone rejects the Lord Jesus, God's gift from Heaven to men.



Others don't know about the gift and must hear it from a friend, just as people in the United States learned about the Christmas flower.

Joel Poinsett couldn't share the bloom until it became his own, and this is true of God's gift too. When the Lord Jesus is our wonderful Saviour, we must tell others about Him.

"Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15).

Emphasis on Soul Winning

INSTITUTE PLANS BIBLE CONFERENCE

Dr. David Wood, pastor of the Harbor Baptist Church, Columbia, South Carolina, will be the principal speaker at the Bible Conference and Soul-winners' Clinic at the Pine Level, North Carolina, Free Will Baptist Church, on Thursday and Friday, December 28 and 29. The conference is sponsored by the Carolina Bible Institute.

The conference will open at 10 a. m. on Thursday, December 28, with registration and an introduction of what will follow by the Rev. Floyd B. Cherry, president of the Carolina Bible Institute. Then at 11 a. m., Dr. Wood will bring his first message of the conference.

Each afternoon, from 2 to 4, Dr. Wood will teach personal soul winning. This course, as is all of the conference, is open to the public, and attendance is required of the student of the Bible Institute. Dr. Wood is well qualified to teach such a course. He is a graduate of the Columbia Bible College, the Founder of the Harbor Baptist Church, and has baptized 500 or more people each year for the last five years. He knows how to win souls and also how to motivate church people to visit and win souls.

The night session on December 28 will begin at 7:30. Dr. Wood will bring an evangelistic message. The Rev. Bill Gardner will be in charge of music for the entire conference. If you cannot attend any other session, you should not miss the evening session.

The second day will follow the same pattern as the first day with Dr. Wood speaking in the morning and teaching soul winning in the afternoon. There will be no night session on December 29.



Dr. David Wood



A Giant Step in Foreign Missions

THE PALAWAN BIBLE INSTITUTE

The Foreign Mission Board has an exciting and important announcement to make—the establishment of the new Palawan Bible Institute (hereafter referred to as PBI) on the island of Palawan in the Philippines. December being Foreign Missions Month, we feel that this is the appropriate time for this announcement.

Plans for the institute have been in the making for nearly a year, under the leadership of Missionary Wayne King and with the approval of the board. Beginning this week, we hope to give you a series of informative articles on the institute—what it is, what it hopes to do, and the part you can have in its development.

This week we will deal principally with its name and some of its study emphases, as well as a projection on its opening date.

Wayne King has recommended that the school be named Palawan Bible Institute and gives this reason: "One of the reasons we believe it should be so called is due to the fact that such a name tends to be neutral and does not normally evoke prejudice and prejudgment as some names would. In a country where more than 90 percent of the population has ties with Roman Catholicism, a name above the school bearing Protestant markings such as the word "Baptist," would cast aspersions on the school's integrity in the minds of many."

The Foreign Mission Board is in agreement with him, and we are sure you will be also as you understand the full meaning of his reason. The name itself is, after all, of less importance than the goals it intends to reach by the help of the Lord.

Wayne is confident that the school can best "sell" itself through the service it renders and the impact it will have on human lives. The time has fully come when we should give such a school that opportunity in the Philippines. Now that the Fred Bakers have joined the Kings, we have a much greater chance to make the school accomplish its purpose and tasks.

Wayne has this further introductory statement to make: "I see a great opportunity to minister to many Christian groups on the island of Palawan. I believe we should teach the doctrines and distinctives that Free Will Baptists in the States believe and hold dear. But I also believe that we can reach more people and train more people from the Word of God if the name of the school does not seem to reflect that we minister to one denomination only."

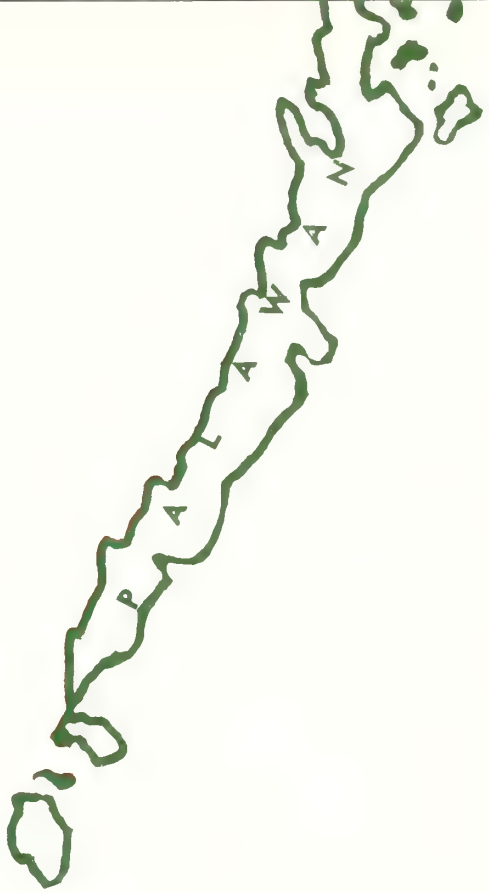
An illustration of what Wayne has said is given here. "Recently, while in Puerto Princesa (a city in central Palawan), I was approached by the Methodist pastor there who had learned of our plans to begin a school in or near the city. He wanted to know if they could send some of their students to our school to study. I told him they would be welcomed." Our principal objective, however, is to train our own pastors and other Free Will Baptist Christian workers.

This is the true purpose of the institute. PBI's goal is to make disciples for Jesus Christ. The study emphases of PBI include more than a set of doctrines and Christian philosophies; they will involve teaching a whole way of life—the Christian way, based on the Bible. "The sincere desire of this institute's personnel is to offer training which will pervade every area of the student's life and will help him to become a better Christian and a better citizen," Missionary King said.

In the coming few weeks we hope to tell you some of our plans regarding the following phases of the institute:

1. The kind of education program offered.
2. The skills and trades we will emphasize.
3. A look at the total life of the student.
4. What will be required for entrance into the school.
5. Work opportunities afforded every student to help him in financial matters.
6. A look at the curriculum of PBI.

For this time, however, let us ask you to be in prayer for the institute which we hope to open sometime about the first of March 1979. This is how you can have a part in PBI. Do not fail us.



PALAWAN (pronounced pah-LAH-wahn) is a sliver-shaped island some 300 miles from the large island of Mindanao. This westernmost area of the Philippines is 275 miles long with an average width of only 15 miles. It is on this island that our mission work, including the Palawan Bible Institute (PBI), will in the future be concentrated.

"We should teach the doctrines and distinctives Free Will Baptists in the States believe and hold dear."

St. Claire Bible Class

The Sunday School Lesson

For December 31

GOD'S REDEEMING LOVE FOR US

Lesson Text: Ephesians 1:3-14
Memory Verse: Romans 5:8

I. INTRODUCTION

A young man who had spent all his life in orphanages and foster homes had, as a result, grown bitter toward the world. He felt that his parents had rejected and abandoned him so he, in turn, was rejecting the whole world. A wise counselor, seeking to help him, suggested that he attempt to find out something about the early months of his life.

With great effort and after many weeks, the young man was able to retrace the troubled years of his life back to the city where he was born and had spent his early months. Gradually the facts of his life began to unfold. He was born just a few months before his father, a serviceman, was sent overseas. Word soon came of his death in combat. The mother as a result was forced to go to work to support herself and her small son. During the time she worked, she left him with some friends. One day she returned from work to find the friend's house in flames. Heedless to danger, she rushed into the house and was able to save the baby, but she was so horribly burned that she soon died. Thus the baby, left without friends or family, was sent to an orphanage.

The young man searched further and found in the attic of the house where he had once lived some of his mother's possessions. There he found a crib, made by his father. There he found clothes lovingly sewn by hand. As the truth began to come through to the young man, he realized that his parents had wanted him and loved him, that cruel circumstances, not rejection, had separated him from his parents. With this new assurance, this young man was able to go out and face the world with a totally different attitude.

How like this young man's experience is the experience of many in their relationship with God! When persons can be led to realize that God made man, and loved him, and even before time began made plans for his redemption, then how different will be our attitude toward Him and the world.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. In the part of Asia Minor where Ephesus was located, four distinct religious ideas were struggling for the minds and hearts of men. First, there was the claim of Judaism. Second, there was the claim and challenge of Greek philosophy. Third, there was the claim of the many gods of the mystery religions. Finally, there was the claim and challenge of Christianity which, at the time, was a very young religion. That Christianity played a great part in the history of that part of the world is attested by the existence of this Epistle to the Ephesians.

B. For about three years, Paul had used Ephesus, the chief city of the Roman province of Asia, as headquarters. During this time, he had planted a strong church there, and had evangelized the whole province. Most scholars believed that it was during this period that the Seven Churches of Asia mentioned in Revelation came into being. After leaving the area, Paul kept in close contact with these churches. By an abundance of evidence, we are assured that this epistle was written by Paul in A.D. 64 while in prison in Rome. This letter may have been an encyclical, going to the various churches in the province of Ephesus.

C. In the salutation of the epistle, it is abundantly clear that Paul is writing to Christians. Then the epistle proceeds along three definite lines of thought: (1) the present exalted position of each born-again believer; (2) the specific truth relative to the church; and (3) the consistent walk and warfare of those who are saved.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A plain, ordinary girl once stood up in a church service and asked to speak a few words. She said:

"Once there was a man, a wonderful man, who prayed under the stars, walked on the roadways, and sat on the hillside. He talked to people; He fed the hungry; He healed the sick. He had a wonderful way about Him.

"Bad men plotted against Him, and one day they hung Him on a cross. When He died, everybody was sad. That was not the end of it. He rose from the dead and now He lives. Whenever human beings turn to Him, they find Him and He helps them. He makes life so wonderful for all of us."

The pastor said that as she spoke this plain girl was transformed into a beautiful woman. Her countenance became lighted; her eyes and hair became soft and lustrous. He said, "Now I know what the old artists meant by putting a circle around a head and calling it a halo." Great grace was upon her, for she was redeemed by the love of Jesus Christ.

It's hard to explain, but God's redemptive love and grace do give one an undisturbed, calm attitude. The person begins to live above petty irritations and exasperations. When God's grace comes into one, he becomes relaxed and controlled. Such a person is a pleasure to know, and we are not afraid of him. How can one reject Christ's redemptive grace when it does so much for him?

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

A fireman lost his life saving another and a writer said, "To believe that God did not recognize in him a son is to dishonor God." Was the fireman saved because he died for another? No. Only Christ could die for the salvation of others. The act of heroism should be praised, but though he may have saved a hundred men in the performance of his duty, or for any other reason, he still had to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for his own salvation.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

For January 7

BECOMING A NEW PERSON IN CHRIST

Lesson Text: Romans 8:1-4; Ephesians 2:1-10
Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:17

I. INTRODUCTION

A man once had a strange dream. In the dream he found himself haled into court because he had become too independent. He was a man who had accumulated a fortune through hard work and careful management. As he stood before the court, he was asked to justify his wealth. He insisted that it rightly belonged to him, that he had not attained it unjustly, but had worked for it. But the judge reminded him that his employees had also worked, helping to make him rich, and so his money was taken away from him.

Next he was asked to justify his education. The man insisted that he had rightfully earned his degrees, having been a diligent student in college. But once again the judge decreed otherwise. After all, all his learning had come from his teachers and the books he had read.

The man was then challenged to justify his clothing! By this time he was so shaken that he readily admitted that others had made his clothes and sold them to him. And so he was stripped of every last garment.

Thus he stood before the judge, stark naked and helpless. But the last indignity was yet to come. As the poor man made one final effort to defend himself, even the air refused to carry the sound of his voice, and the whole court, unable to hear him, ignored him and turned to other matters. Only as the man sank to the floor in sobbing frustration did he awaken from his horrible nightmare.

Of course, this was only a dream. But in a way it depicts the plight of all of us when we shall be called before the divine judgment bar. All of our defenses, all the accomplishments we boast about, will be stripped from us and our pleas will not be heard. Our only hope is to throw ourselves upon God's grace.—**Standard Lesson Commentary**

II. HINTS THAT HELP

A. Last Sunday we ended a unit of study entitled, "God Makes Himself Known to Us." In these five lessons, we saw how God has revealed Himself to needy, hungry mankind. Today we begin a new unit of study, "We Experience Redemption Through Christ." In this series of three lessons, we will see how one is saved and comes to experience the new life in Christ.

B. Our first Scripture portion for today is taken from Paul's Epistle to the Romans 8:1-4. Dr. Donald Grey Barnhouse has chosen this eighth chapter of Romans as his favorite chapter of Scripture because "it sets forth God's complete remedy in Christ for man's complete ruin in sin." Dr. Barnhouse further tells us that the "therefore" at the beginning of this chapter goes back to three chapters in the book: Chapters 3, 6, 7. "Because of the truth of justification (Chapter 3), because of our union with Christ (Chapter 6), and because of our complete identification with Him (Chapter 7), there is therefore now no condemnation for them that are in Christ Jesus."

C. Speaking of this eighth chapter of Romans, the great Irish Presbyterian minister Ian R. K. Paisley has said, "In order to get the real force of this chapter we should read from verse twenty-one of the previous chapter. The last section of chapter seven is really the beginning of that section of the epistle contained in chapter eight. There were no chapter divisions in the original Scriptures and sometimes these are of such an artificial nature that in heeding them the full force of a passage is missed. Without a doubt this is the chapter of the Spirit of God." The eighteen references to the Spirit of God in this chapter give Mr. Paisley reason to call this the "chapter of the Spirit of God."

D. Our second portion of Scripture for today's lesson is taken from the Epistle to the the Ephesians 2:1-10. This passage gives us a wonderful picture of the believer's transition from the darkness of the gloom of spiritual death to the glorious light of spiritual life. This second chapter of the Book of Ephesians is also a remarkable portion of God's Word.

E. These two portions of Scripture which we study today will not only show us how to experience the new life in Christ, but they will also show us what our possessions are **in Christ** and what our position as believers is. This lesson should engender a greater appreciation of the salvation that is ours in Christ.

—**The Bible Teacher (F.W.B.)**

III. ADDITIONAL TRUTHS

A. In last Sunday's lesson we studied about God's redeeming love for us. This served as a fine introduction to the present unit. The concept that the redeemed person is a new person in Christ provides the theme that opens up a new unit of three studies; our redemption in Christ, our growth in our spiritual experience, and our hope for victory in Jesus, which lies in the power of our triumphant God.

B. Today's lesson is taken from two of the most stimulating books of the New Testament: Romans and Ephesians, both written as letters by Paul. Paul himself became a new person in Christ, as a result of his experience on the Damascus Road. He was originally enroute to that ancient city to arrest Christians and bring them to judgment and probable death.

C. His thoughts in these two letters involve tremendous themes: (1) Our new nature from God enables us to be new persons in Christ. (2) This new nature is a gift we receive because of Christ's sacrificial death, a gift we cannot purchase or earn. (3) Becoming a new person in Christ is the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, which results in new motives, attitudes, goals, and aspirations.

D. The ultimate aims of the new person in Christ are to be more Christlike and to bring glory to the Father.

—**The Advanced Quarterly (F.W.B.)**

IV. ILLUSTRATING THE LESSON

An evangelist was once challenged to debate with an atheist. He accepted on condition that each should appear with one hundred persons who would testify as to what the respective beliefs had done for them. The atheist did not appear, but the evangelist put his reformed drunkards, harlots, and wifebeaters on the witness stand. They offered their testimonies, and it was one of the most thrilling meetings ever held. These people, redeemed by grace, were God's workmanship. They were touched by His mighty hand of redemptive transformation.—Selected and Adapted



NEWS & NOTES

Fifth Union Meets

The Fifth Union Meeting of the Eastern Conference will be held at the Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church, Ernul, North Carolina, December 30, beginning at 10 a. m.

The Rev. Grady Tucker will bring the devotional, and the morning message will be delivered by the Rev. Hilary Gaskins.

Time for Plymouth Church Services

During the winter months the First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth, will hold its Sunday evening worship services and the Wednesday evening services at 7 p. m.

Albemarle Meetings, Shiloh and Piney Grove Churches

The Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Pinetown, will host the Albemarle Union Meeting, Sunday School Convention. The Albemarle League Convention will convene with the Piney Grove church. These events will take place on Saturday, December 30, 1978. The scheduled program is as follows:

UNION MEETING

OPENING SESSION

10:00—Devotions, the Rev. Charles Parrish
10:10—Welcome, the Rev. Marvin Waters
—Response, the Rev. Stanley Buck
10:15—Moderator's Address, the Rev. Charlie Overton
10:20—Roll Call of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches
10:30—Offering for Denominational Enterprises
—Announcements
—Prayer Time

BUSINESS SESSION

10:40—Report of Children's Home, Via Literature
—Report of Mount Olive College, Via Literature
—Report of Missions, Via Literature
—Report of Cragmont, Via Literature
10:50—Reading of Minutes of Last Union for Information
—Report of Treasurer
—Other Business
—Announcements of Next Union
11:00—Minutes Read and Approved

MORNING WORSHIP

11:10—Hymn
11:20—Special Music, Host Church
11:25—Message, the Rev. Marvin Waters
12:00—Benediction
—Adjournment and Lunch

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

OPENING SESSION

1:00—Devotions, the Rev. Francis Garner
1:10—Welcome-Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. William Sheppard
—Response, Mr. David Furlough
1:15—President's Message, the Rev. Billy Reynolds
1:25—Enrollment of Ministers
—Recognition of Visiting Ministers
—Roll Call of Churches and Delegates
—Bringing Reports and Receiving Blanks
—Announcements
—Offering for Children's Home
—Offertory Prayer
—Suggestions and Information for the Betterment of Sunday Schools

BUSINESS SESSION

2:00—Minutes of Last Convention Read for Information
—Treasurer's Report
—New Business
—Minutes Read and Approved

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

2:15—Special Music, Host Church
2:25—Benediction and Adjournment

LEAGUE CONVENTION

7:30—Devotions, Mr. Bentley Oliver
7:40—President's Message, Mr. Loy Jones, Jr.
—Appointment of Digest Committee
—Offering
—Roll Call of Leagues
—Sword Drill
—Hymn
—Recognition of Ministers
—Announcements
—Special Music, Host Church
—League Program
—Minutes of Last Convention
—Business Period
—Report of Digest Committee
—Awarding of Banners and Picture
—Treasurer's Report
—Minutes Read and Approved
—Adjournment

Pianist, Mr. Greg Oliver

Cape Fear Meeting, St. Mary's Grove Church

The Cape Fear Union Meeting wi convene with the St. Mary's Grove Fre Will Baptist Church, Route 3, Benson, o Saturday, December 30, 1978, Th scheduled program is as follows:

10:00—Hymn, Congregation
—Devotion, the Rev. J. C Hathaway
—Welcome, Host Church
—Response, the Rev. John R. Lee
10:20—Enrollment of Officers and Ministers
—Recognition of Visitors
—Reading Minutes of Last Union
—Appointment of Committees
—Roll Call of Churches
—Report of Denominationa Enterprises
—Miscellaneous Business
11:15—Hymn, Congregation
—Special Music
—Offering and Offertory Prayer
—Message, the Rev. J. B. Caton
12:00—Report of Treasurer
—Report of Committees
—Unfinished Business
—Benediction and Adjournment
—Lunch and Christian Fellowship

The officers of the union are: moderator, the Rev. J. Walter Stanley; assistant moderator, the Rev. Edward C. Taylor; secretary, Mrs. Dola Dudley;

ssistant secretary, Mrs. Ruth Warrick; easurer, H. T. Hinson; and hymn rector, Johnnie Woodall.

econd Union of Western Conference eeting

The Second Union of the Western onference will meet with the Rosebud ree Will Baptist Church, Route 4, Vilson, on Saturday, December 30, 978, at 7 p. m. The theme will be "The enewing." The Scripture will be taken om Psalm 51:10. The program is as llows:

all to Order
ong Service, Host Church
rayer
Welcome, Mrs. Kathy Steadman
Response, Ronald Bissette
Devotions, Dale Crabtree
Moderator's Remarks
Appointment of Committees
Roll Call of Churches
Roll Call of Ministers
Recognition of Visitors
Denominational Reports
Business Session
Program, Rosebud Church
Rising Vote of Thanks to Host Church
Adjournment

The following have been approved for icense in the Western Conference: Ernie rice, Linward Crocker, Duane Evans, immy Webb, all of Branch Chapel hurch; and Ronnie Peele, Northern hurch, Durham.

PREACHER'S DIARY

by Taylor Hill
Home Missions Director

A missionary's wife walked into my office today and with a big smile said, "I've brought you some money for the mission program. I hope you don't mind; it's all in loose change."

I look around my office and found a box and just sat quietly watching as she gathered it all up out of her purse and dumped it into the box—$27.26 in all.

She said, "This is from our little mission church and we are going to bring you some more real soon." She handed me a Christmas card signed by some of the mission's members and left.

I just sat there and looked at the greeting card and loose change in the box. My thoughts were too moving to express.

NOTICE

Central Conference Ordaining Council will meet at the Free Will Baptist Press, Ayden, on January 9, 1979, at 1:30 p. m.

NOTICE

The Third Union of the Eastern Conference will meet December 30, at 10 a. m., at Folkstone Free Will Baptist Church, Holly Ridge.

NOTICE

The Central Conference Mission Board has made a contribution to the main building fund at Cragmont in memory of the Rev. L. E. Ballard. They deeply appreciate Mr. Ballard's interest in Cragmont over the years.

Anyone wishing to make a similar contribution may send funds to Mrs. A. B. Chandler, Treasurer; Route 1, Sims, North Carolina 27880.

Jesus was content with a stable when He was born that we might have a mansion when we die.

Greetings From Branch Bookstores

SMITHFIELD BOOKSTORE
Joyce Wood, Manager
Estelle Martin
Joyce Brown

NEW BERN BOOKSTORE
Peachie Lyczkowski
Ellen Dixon, Manager
Ada Rice
Lilly Potter
Margie Looney
Mary E. Phipps
(not pictured)

KINSTON BOOKSTORE
Bonnie Harper
Thelma Howard
Tharen "Happy" Taylor, Manager
Sondra Thick
J. Wesley Taylor Jr.
(not pictured)

WILSON BOOKSTORE
Hattie Mae Everton, Manager
Rebekah Everton
Bessie Grey Dekeyzzer
Fannie Lee Dickerson
Doris Davis
(not pictured)









Our Free Will Baptist Children's Home Family



Wish for each of you a very Merry Christmas

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS

The Free Will Baptist Press Foundation and its bookstores at Ayden, Smithfield, Wilson, New Bern, and Kinston will be closed December 25 and 26 and also on January 1, in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day.



NO "BAPTIST" DECEMBER 27

In accordance with our policy of printing only fifty issues of "The Free Will Baptist" each year, there will not be an issue on December 27. The next "Baptist" printed will be the issue of January 3, 1979.

For Reference

Not to be taken from this room

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